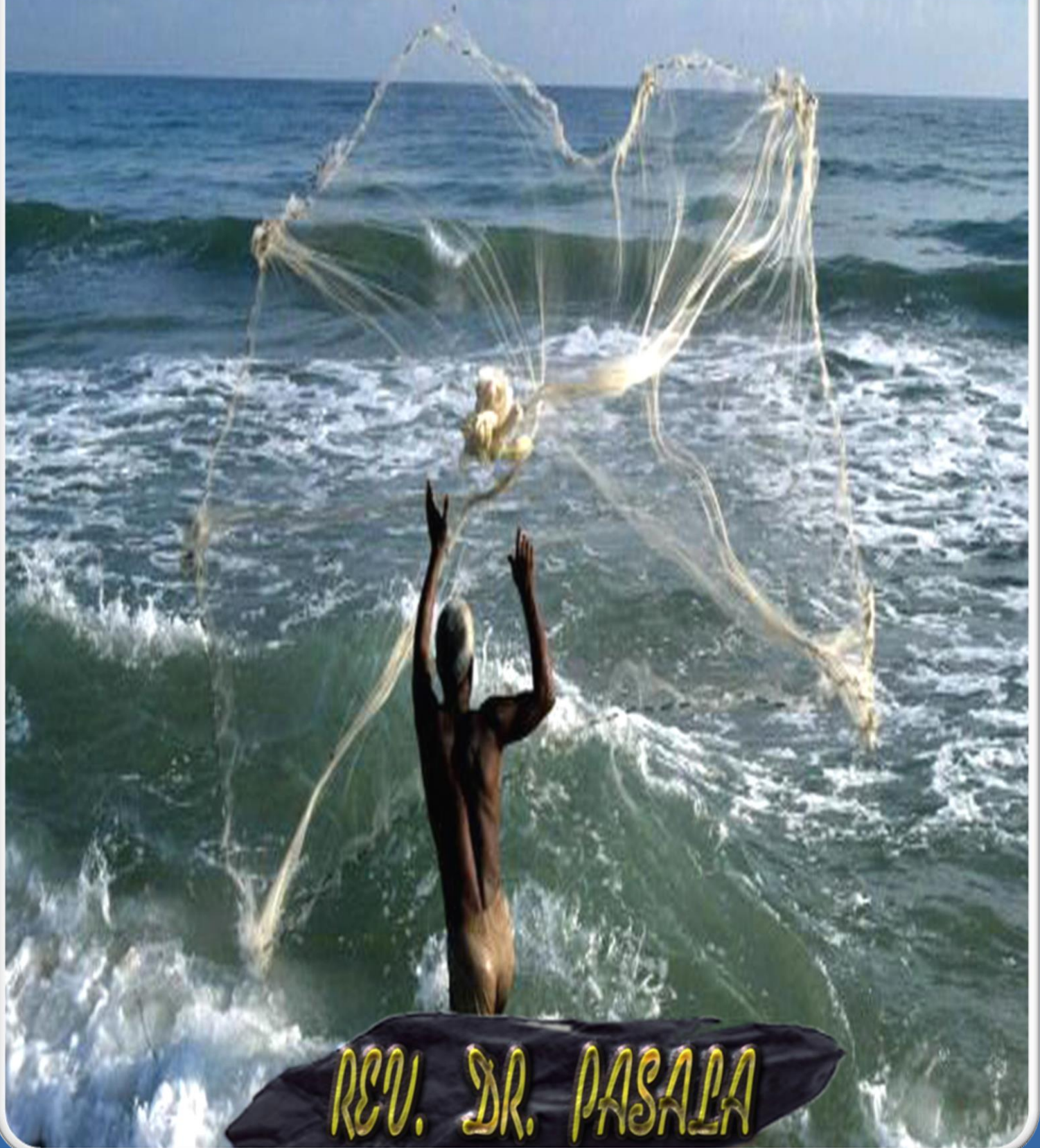


# FISHERS OF MEN



REV. DR. PASALA

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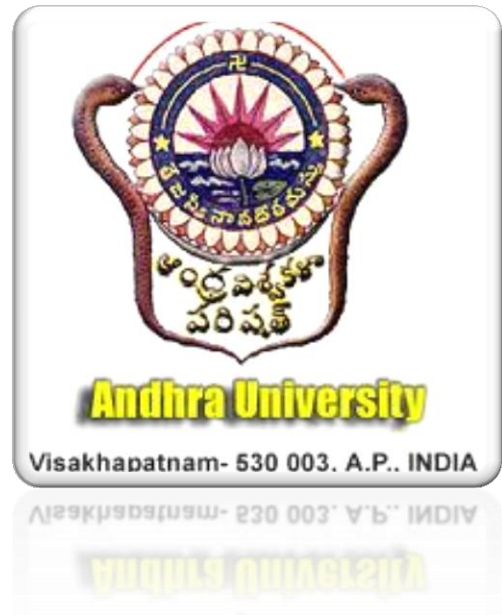
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## **EDITOR'S VIEW**

**I continuously Praise God for making me part of this great mission of editing the books being penned by the dear Pastor. This book enlightened me about being fisher men of men. I learned the essence of ministry is all about. I thank God for teaching me what Christian mission is all about. The input about the lives of the fisher men community has given scope for me to comprehend their life styles. I wish all the readers a happy reading and may the Lord bless you all in His Grace.**

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# Fishers of men

**Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become**

**Fishers of men - Mark 1:17**



**Jesus in his ministry on face of the earth. He called four fishermen and told them, I will**  
**J****make you as the fishers of men. As he is God, his every word has the meaning and the**  
**life to make someone to live. We will do the detail study on this.**

**Before we go to the fishers of men, let's have the brief study about the fishermen.**



## Fishermen



We see about 40 million commercial and subsistence fishermen and fish farmers

**W**around the world. Most of the places they are the illiterate still today. They dedicate the children for the sea. They call them as the “Ganga Puthrudu” it means the child of the sea. In India most the fisher men are the idol worshippers. They will have the house goddesses. Some people accepted Jesus as the personal savior. All the family lives on the sea. Some people make good money out of the fish business. They look strong in physic.

## Characters of Fishermen

**Labors:** Most of them are the labors: they do hard work to catch the fish. They work as the team to catch the fish. Their dressing will be very simple. As India is a hot country, most of the men don't wear any cloths on top. They do very hard work.

**Poverty:** Very few make good money as they have number of boats and the other sources, most of them are very poor. Men go for fishing, women sell the fish. Children will follow the parents.

**Uneducated:** They live on fishing. They dedicate the children to the sea. From the childhood they roam around the sea. Parents will not bother to send the children to the schools. Children do help the parents in their works. Parents try their best to teach the methods of the fishing to the children. From the childhood itself the children do the swimming and do the works of the sea.

**Spirituality:** They worship the sea as the goddess. They conduct the festivals in the name of the sea goddess. They don't concentrate much on the spirituality. Most of the time, they will be on the sea. They pray to the sea goddess to help them to catch more fish. They believe that the sea is their goddess as they make food out of the sea.

**Self-centered:** They are self-centered people. They live as groups. They don't join with other communities in the society. They marry the same tribe women. They do things with in themselves. In other words we can say they are strong community. Most of them live near to the sea.

**Harsh:** They act harsh in their daily lives. They do the hard work. As they live near to the sea, they need to use loud voice for speaking to the other person, due to the sea roaring. We feel they are harsh in the talk. As the matter of fact they habited for the kind of accent. Even the women also act in the same way. When they go out also they have the same accent. Other people think what's wrong with these people, why they speak like shouting. Because of their life style they become harsh in the talk and acts.

**Proud:** As they live on their own without any boss, they feel proud about themselves. They make money for themselves. They don't depend on some for the food or any needs. As they live on the sea, they make money out of that. When somebody had no boss, proud will automatically takes place. They feel they were blessed by the goddess to live on the sea.

**Weak:** They are weak in the social status. As they are not educated, they depend on some to do the paper works. Most of them are weak in the financial status. They were ignored by the governments and the outer society. As every one of the family members lives on the sea, if any natural calamities arise, they suffer a lot for everything. This kind of situations made them weak. They are also weak in the mind and to take sessions.

**Cowardly:** Because of the social life and the poverty, they are very coward. They are strong on the sea and their works. Coming to the financial and the society actions they feel themselves as they are weak. As they are not educated, when the time arise to take the sessions for important issues, they feel themselves they are weak.

**Selfish:** As they live away from the society, near to the sea. They will have the selfish mottos in their lives. They need to be selfish as their livelihood depends on the sea and its seasons. Other side the natural calamities. They will be forced to live selfish. They are Selfish to make them to survive. Their environments and the situations make them selfish.

## Types of fishing

### Hand fishing Spear fishing



### Fishing with netting





## Angling Line fishing



## Angling with a rod



## Trapping



## Animal Fishing



## Fishermen techniques

**Go where the fish are:** Fishermen must find out where the fish was there and need to go there. Fish will not come to the fishermen. Fisherman must go where the fish is there.



**Be patient:** Fisherman must have the patience. Sometimes they may wait for long time to catch fish. Sometimes they cannot catch fish even after long waiting. Without patience they cannot do the fishing.



**Work with Persevere:** Fishermen need to work with persevere. Once they lose their persevere, they cannot get fish. They must decide themselves that they must catch the fish.





**Have courage:** Courage is the main weapon for the fishermen to do the fishing. Fishermen need courage to stand in the difficult weather situations. Sometimes the sea will be very ruff, in that situations they need to use more energy and the courage to stand in those hard times.



**An eye for the right moment:** Fishermen must have an eye for the right movement. They cannot put net for nothing. They must have the eyes to see the right time for the fishing. Fish moves from one place to another place. They travel as the team. Fishermen must have an eye to catch fish in the right time.



**Keep him-self out of sight:** Fishermen must keep him-self out sight for the best fishing. Generally the fish moves from one place to another place with the group. This is one of his hunting techniques to catch more fish.



**Fishing in various methods:** Fishermen must use the methods of regular and also instant methods. As they live on fishing, they know many methods to fish as they work on the sea from childhood. By observing the father and other elders work, he will learn certain methods which make him success to catch the fish

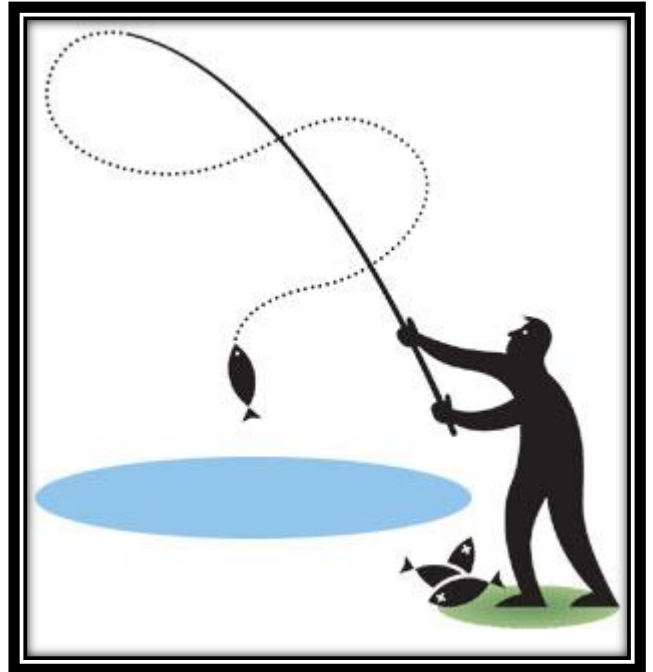
**Must have faith:** Without faith he cannot catch the fish. The reason, sometimes the fishermen come without fish. That's because of the blackness of faith. When he has the faith that he will catch the fish, it will boost him to keep the patience and the encourage him to achieve by hunting fish.



**Nature of Wake-Up:** Fishermen must have the wake up nature. When they hunt during the nights, they have to follow the other instructions with the wake up nature. If they go to sleep, they will be in trouble.



**Long rope:** This is the technique used in the angling or angling with a rod. The fishermen will use this long rope process to catch the fish. When the fish catch by the hook, it will try to escape in any means. So that it will use the power to come out of the hook. Then the fisher men will give the long rope. He will allow the fish go without out any pressure. In this process, the fish will tired and hang to the hook. That's the time for the fishermen to pull it fast to the shore.



**Team work:** Some time fishermen need others help to bring the large number of fish to the shore. This kind of help they need in the line fishing and the net fishing. There they catch the large number of fish. Single man cannot do it. So that the fishermen need the team work.

**Segregating:** During the fishing the fishermen segregate the fish then and there to throw the unwanted fish, to give room for more fish. It is an automatic action in his hunting.



# What does the Bible says about the fishers of men?

## Jesus Calls Four Fishermen

**“As Jesus walked along the shore of Lake Galilee, he saw two brothers who were fishermen, Simon (called Peter) and his brother Andrew, catching fish in the lake with a net. Jesus said to them, “Come with me, and I will teach you to catch people.” At once they left their nets and went with him. He went on and saw two other brothers, James and John, the sons of Zebedee. They were in their boat with their father Zebedee, getting their nets ready. Jesus called them, and at once they left the boat and their father, and went with him” - Matthew 4:18-22**



**J**esus called them as they are born fishermen. They are specialized people to fish. For such people can be useful to catch people for Jesus. Here we need to know about the fishermen.

We will see about 38 million commercial and subsistence fishermen and fish farmers around the world.

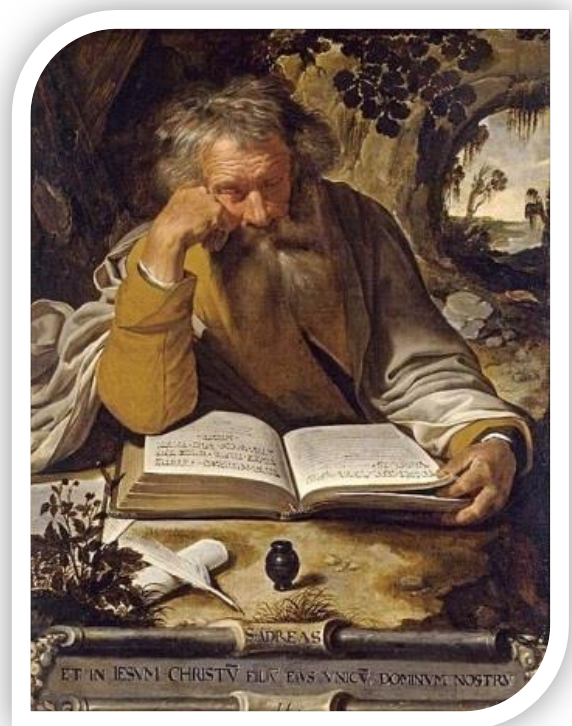


# How the called persons fulfilled the word “Fishers of men”

## Andrew

The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, we have found the Messiah- John 1:41

The following verses will also tell us about Andrew and Peter. How Jesus found them, how He called them. The important thing here was the Andrew’s ministry. He was able to bring a great man to Jesus that was Peter. In the name of Andrew, many missions started in the world. Those missions called as “The Mission of Andrew” it means to bring someone to Jesus. As the matter of fact that was the fishers of men. Before the Jesus called them in that form, he did it un-knowingly.



From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, Repent, for The Kingdom of heaven is at hand. As He walked by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were Fishermen. And He said to them, Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men. Immediately they left their nets and followed Him - Matthew 4:17-20

**Sea Of Galilee Andrew, derived from the Greek name pronounced an-dreh-as, meaning manly, was one of The Twelve Apostles. He was from Bethsaida in Galilee - John 1:44, and was the brother of Simon Peter - Matthew 4:18**

**After witnessing John the Baptist identify Jesus as, The Lamb of God - John 1:29, 40.**

**Andrew immediately became a converted follower of The Lord, and was the one who introduced his brother Peter**

**One of the two who heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon, and said to him, we have found the Messiah, which means Christ. He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him, and said, so you are Simon the son of John? You shall be called Cephas, which means Peter - John 1:40-42**

**After their first meeting with The Lord, Andrew and Peter apparently went back to their profession as fishermen for a short time, until after the Temptation of Jesus by Satan - Matthew 4:1-11, and John the Baptist had been imprisoned - Matthew 4:12. It was then, when Jesus' ministry had begun - Matthew 4:17, that they received their formal calling, as shown in the opening paragraph - Matthew 4:18-20.**

**Relatively little is written about Andrew, compared to his more famous brother, Peter. We do know that he was among the inner circle of disciples - John 6:8, 12:22, and while atop the Mount Of Olives with Peter, James, and John, asked the now famous question of Jesus as to when His return would occur - Mark 13:1-36.**

**As was the case with all of the others, Andrew is believed to have been martyred. According to one account, he was crucified on an X-shaped cross, two ends of which were in the ground. Hence the origin of the term, "St. Andrew's Cross.**

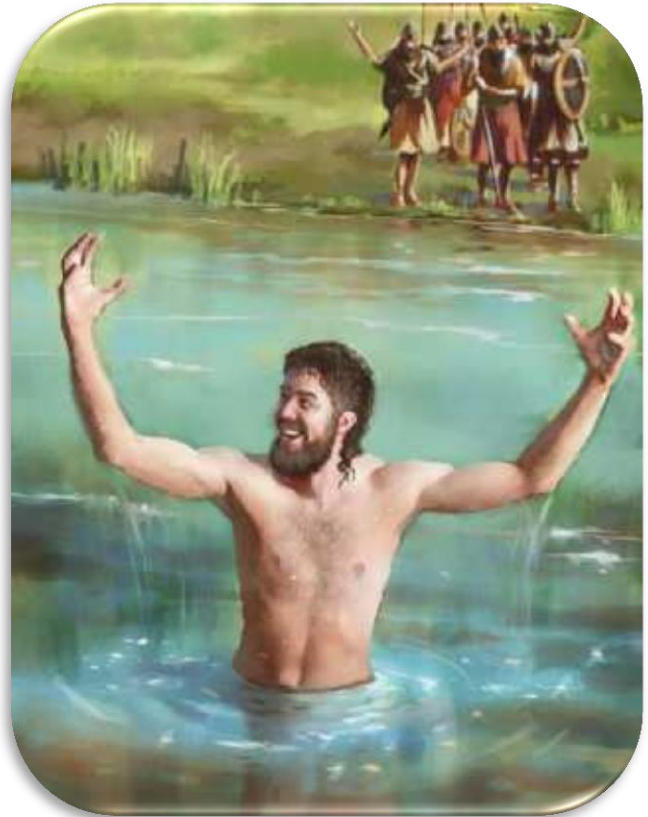
**Fact Finder: Did Jesus Christ tell Andrew and the others that His return would be preceded by great signs in the heavens? - Mark 13:24-27**

**Let's see some Andrew's ministry in the past and present**

## **Naaman Healed of Leprosy**

**N**aaman; the commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master and in high favor, because by him the Lord had given victory to Syria. He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper. Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little girl from the land of Israel, and she worked in the service of Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, Would that my Lord was with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would

cure him of his leprosy. So Naaman went in and told his lord, Thus and so spoke the girl from the land of Israel. And the king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel. So he went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing. And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, when this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you Naaman my servant, that you may cure him of his leprosy. And when the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Only consider, and see how he is seeking a quarrel with me. But when





**Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, why have you torn your clothes? Let him come now to me, that he may know that there is a prophet in Israel. So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and stood at the door of Elisha's house. And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean. But Naaman was angry and went away, saying, Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the Lord his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage. But his servants came near and said to him, my father, it is a great word the prophet has spoken to you; will you not do it? Has he actually said to you, Wash, and be clean? So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.**

**“The Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little girl from the land of Israel, and she worked in the service of Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, Would that my lord was with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprous”**

**Here the little girl took the lead to lead the master Naaman to the prophet for the healing. She was the slave girl, but led the commander of the army of the king of Syria to the prophet. This was called as the ministry of Andrew.**

## **David Yonggi Cho**

**Coming to the life of Paul Yonggi Cho of South Korea was led Jesus through a little girl. She does not know that this man will lead a world's largest church. That credit goes to that little girl. That was called as the Andrew's ministry.**



## **Simon Peter**



**St. Peter, also known as Simon Peter**

**One of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus, leaders of the early Christian Church**

**Peter was a native of Bethsaida, near Lake Tiberias, the son of Jonah**

**Place of Birth: Bethsaida, Syria;**

**Place of Death: Rome, Italy;**

**Place of Burial: St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City**

**Parents: Jonah;**

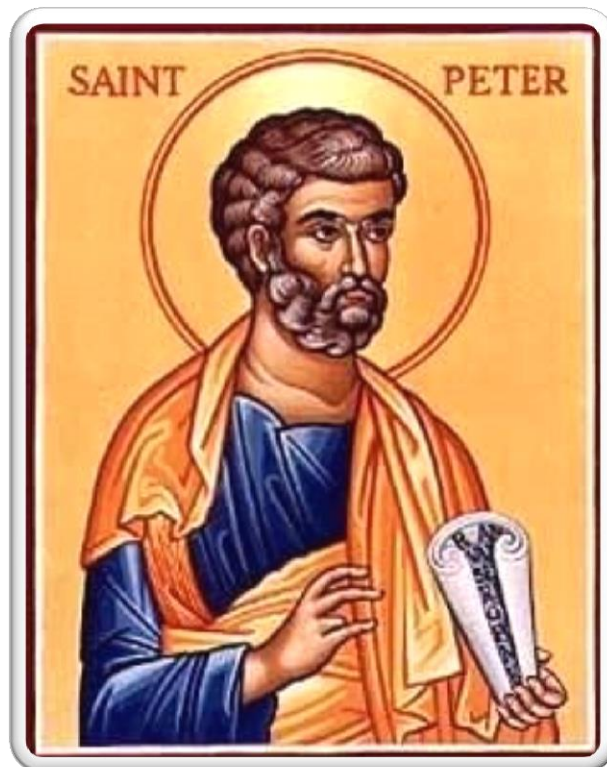
**Siblings: Andrew the Apostle Simon Peter or**

**Cephas the first pope;**

**He was also called as The Prince of the Apostles**

**Simon Peter was brought to Jesus through his brother Andrew. He became more famous than his brother Andrew in the ministry. Let us see some important events took place in the life of Saint Peter**

**He became a bishop in the city of Rome. His apostleship was directed primarily to the Gentiles. He got the greater authority than the other apostles. He received Mary the mother of Jesus as a member of his household after Christ's ascension to Heaven. He denied Christ three times. He was attempted to walk on water three times. Christ asked Peter Three times "Do you love Me?" Three times, Peter had a vision of a sheet let down from heaven containing unclean animals. Jesus Gave him new name are “You shall be called Cephas” the meaning was the rock or Petros (Greek).**



## Some events and teachings from Peter's life

### Peter's Vision

About noon the following day as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles and birds. Then a voice told him, Get up, Peter. Kill and eat. Surely not, Lord! Peter replied. I have never eaten anything impure or unclean. The voice spoke to him a second time, Do not call anything impure that God has made clean. This happened three times, and immediately the sheet was taken back to heaven -Acts 10:9

- 16



**T**his was very important vision for the Peter. He thinks that he was for the Jews not for the gentiles. God want to send Peter to the gentile's house for their salvation. God prepared Peter with this vision. We can see how he was declaring himself that he doesn't (I have never eaten anything impure or unclean) had the practice of eating the unclean.

## Jesus Reinstates Peter



**W**hen they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, Simon son of John, do you love me more than these? Yes, Lord, he said, you know that I love you. Jesus said, Feed my lambs. Again Jesus said, Simon son of John, do you love me? He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you. Jesus said, Take care of my sheep.

The third time he said to him, Simon son of John, do you love me? Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, do you love me? He said, Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you. Jesus said, Feed my sheep. Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.

Jesus knows about the Peter and his heart towards the people. Here Jesus wants to teach something to Peter through these questions. When Jesus asked third time he was embarrassed and said you know that that I love you. Then Jesus revealed the thought which he needs to know. “When you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go” Jesus was taught to Peter through this to do the ministry in the o youth stage.



**“It is good for a man to bear the yoke while he is young” - Lamentations 3:27**

## **Tabitha Rose from Death**

**In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, two men to him and urged him,**

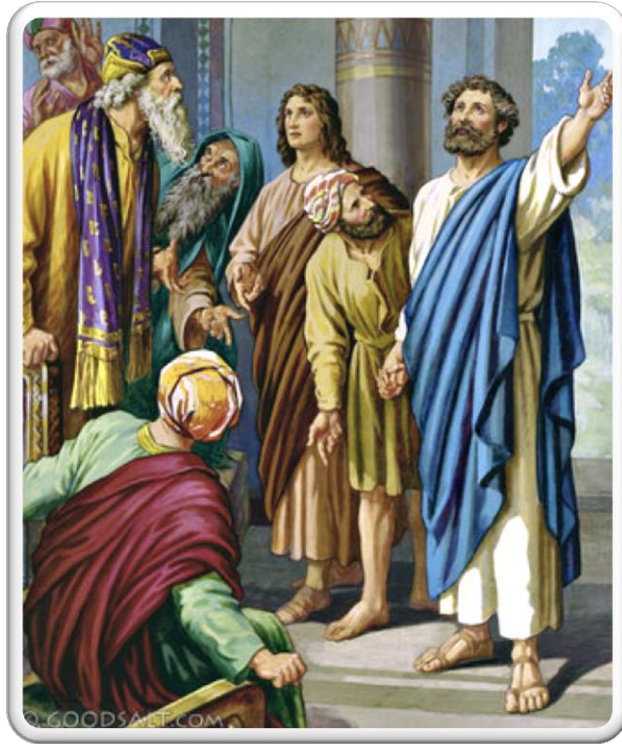


**“Please come at once! Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them. Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, “Tabitha, get up.” She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon - Acts 9:36-43**



## **The Braveness of Peter**

### **Peter and John before the Sanhedrin**

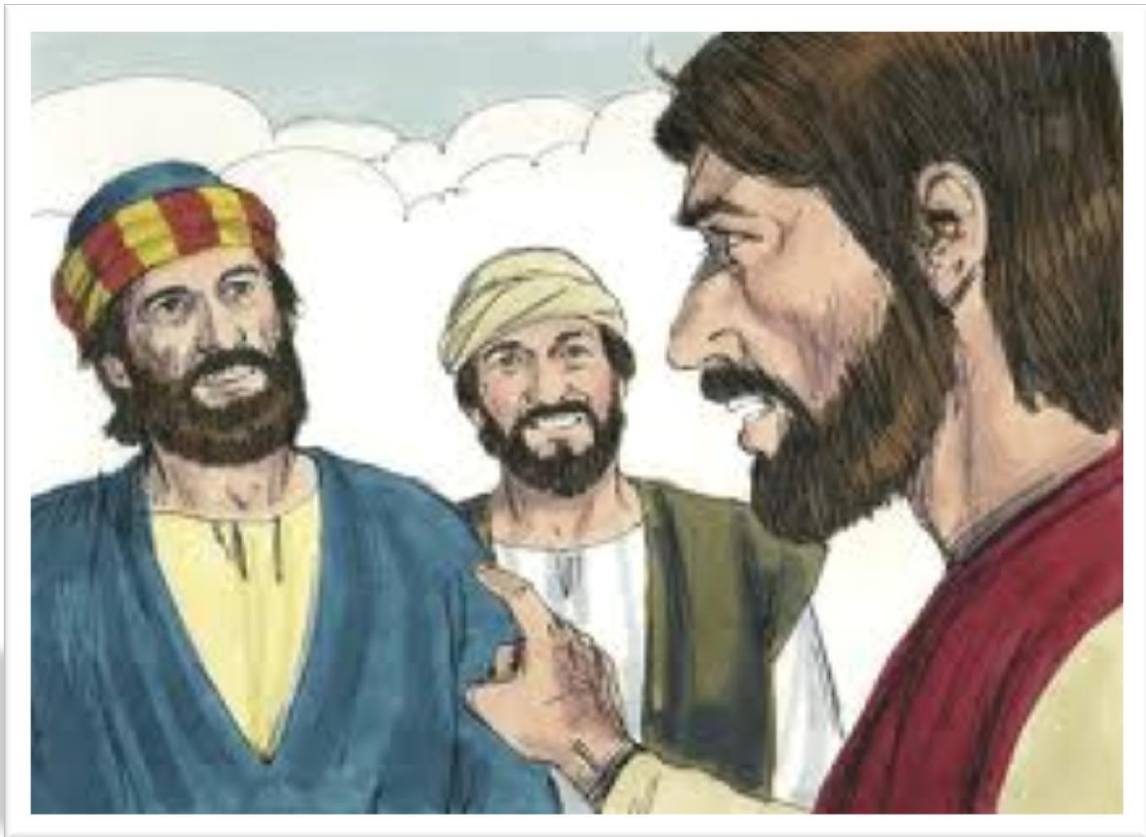


The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people, proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. They seized Peter and John and, because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand. The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: By what power or what name did you do this? Then Peter, filled

with the Holy Spirit, said to them: “Rulers and elders of the people! If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. Jesus is the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone. Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved. When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say. So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together. What are we going to do with these men? They asked. Everyone living in Jerusalem knows they have performed a notable sign, and we cannot deny it. But to stop this thing from spreading any further among the people, we must warn them to speak no longer to anyone in this name. Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, which is right in God’s eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard. After further threats they let them go. They could not decide how to punish them, because all the people were praising God for what had happened. For the man who was miraculously healed was over forty years old – Acts 4:1- 22

## New Name to Peter

The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, We have found the Messiah (that is, the Christ). He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas (which, when translated, is Peter) - John 1:41 - 42



## **Upon this rock I will build my church**

**Jesus answered and said unto him, blessed are thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ - Matthew 16:17-20**



**T**he name Peter in Greek Petros; the meaning of this word was a Rock or Rock-man

**In the next phrase Christ used Petra; says upon this Rock. It was not a name but a feminine form for Rock**

**It was not that Jesus said up on you Peter; He said up on the Rock. It was also not the meaning of some successor**

**This was the divine revelation and declaration of faith in Christ; that the church was built on the Rock.**

**Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone - Ephesians 2:20**

## Keys of the kingdom of heaven



**I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven - Matthew 16:19**

**T**he kingdom of heaven is means “The Gospel” which comes from heaven, declares the king Messiah to be come, speaks of things concerning his kingdom, is the means of setting it up, and enlarging it, displays the riches of His grace, and gives an account of the kingdom of heaven, and of persons' right unto it, and meekness for it.

The keys; the meaning of it are abilities to open and explain the Gospel truths and a mission and commission from Christ to make use of them; and being said to be given to Peter particularly, denotes his after qualifications, commission, work, and usefulness in opening the door of faith, or preaching the Gospel first to the Jews and then to the Gentiles.



## The Transfiguration



About eight days after Jesus said this; he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah. (He did not know what he was saying.) While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. A voice came from the cloud, saying, this is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him. When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen - Luke 9:28-36



**P**eter was privileged to have the part in the Transfiguration of the Jesus. It was the unique experience to Peter. In the other words we can say, he was blessed with this experience. At one stage he thought to stay there.

**“Peter said to him, Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” (He did not know what he was saying) - Luke 9:33**



## **Cut off the ear of slave**



**Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus) - John 18:10**

**He said to them, "But now if you have a purse, take it, and also a bag; and if you don't have a sword, sell your cloak and buy one - Luke 22:36**

**When Jesus' followers saw what was going to happen, they said, Lord, should we strike with our swords? - Luke 22:49**

## Simon Peter having a sword



“He said to them, "But now if you have a purse, take it, and also a bag; and if you don't have a sword, sell your cloak and buy one”

**B**asing on this word Peter carried a sword to defend his master in that garden. He thought that Jesus told them to carry the sword to defend themselves. That reason has made him to use the sword to cut the high priest's servants right ear.

Peter did this only by thinking that they may do something for the master. He suspected the servant used the sword on him by attempting to hit head. But the sword gone to side and cut off the right ear of the servant of the high priest.

## Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial

When he was gone, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once. My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come. A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. Simon Peter asked him, Lord, where are you going? Jesus replied, where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later. Peter asked, Lord, why can't I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you. Then Jesus answered, Will you really lay down your life for me? Very truly I tell you, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times! – John 13:31 – 38.



**P**eter in his past statements, told Jesus that he will stand with Him even in the death. He denied even in front of a child. This made him to repent and come to Jesus. This was the greatness of Peter. Even though he denied, came back immediately to Jesus for the forgiveness and restore his place.

Coming to our lives, many times we act as we don't know who Jesus was in our lives. Sometimes we deny Him in our work places and where we live. Sometimes we deny Him at our schools, and colleges. It will also happen in our family. We must turn to Jesus like Peter immediately restores our position to live for Him as the living vessels.



## **Peter gone back to fishing**

**I'm going out to fish, Simon Peter told them, and they said, we'll go with you. So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing - John 21:3**



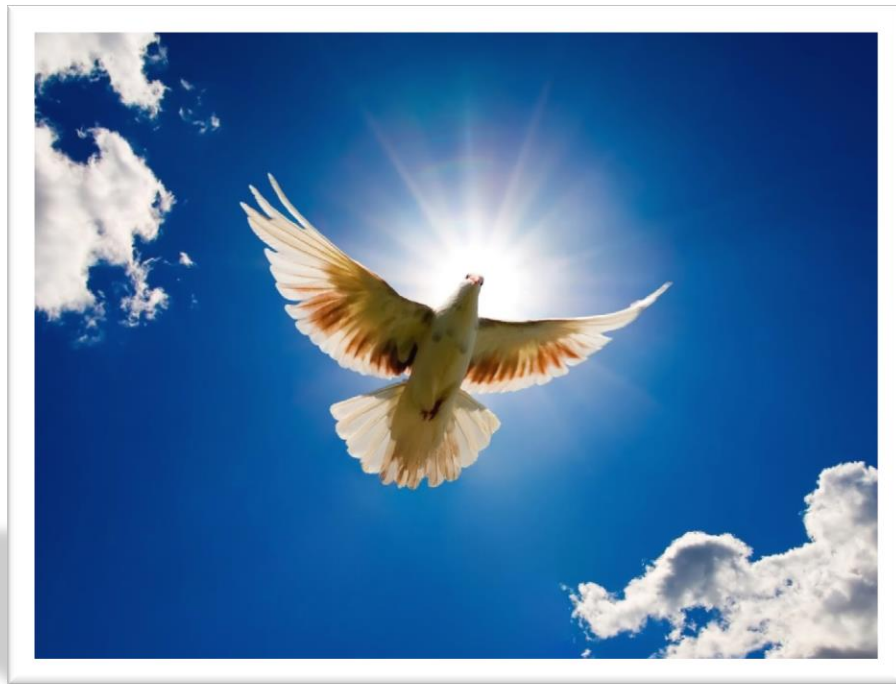
**P**eter gone back by leaving the ministry Jesus gave him. Jesus called him as the fishers of men. As he was the fisherman, he wants to go back to his profession. Not only going back him-self, but also they are taking smoothers with him. This is what happening now-a-days in some God servant lives. They come to the ministry for the sake of some reasons, when those things not fulfill, immediately they go back to their own professions.

**Jesus replied, No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God - Luke 9:62**



## **Holy Spirit came up on them**

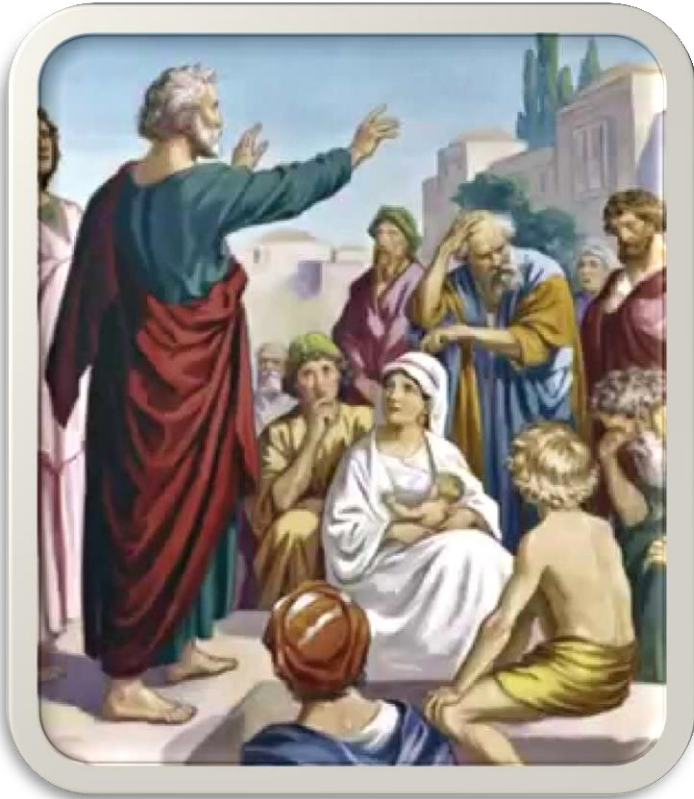
**You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth - Acts 1:8**



**W**hen they receive the Holy Spirit, they received the power. Then they became very strong to stand for Jesus. They gone back to the fishing again, when they have no Holy Spirit.. This speaks very clear that we need the Holy Ghost. When Peter received the Holy Ghost, he received the power. With that power he preached a long sermon without any fear. That brought three thousand people to Jesus. When you have the Holy Spirit, it will have it will have its own miracles and sings to demonstrate the power of God.

The Holy Ghost power led Peter to become the martyred for the Jesus. He was crucified on the cross in reverse.

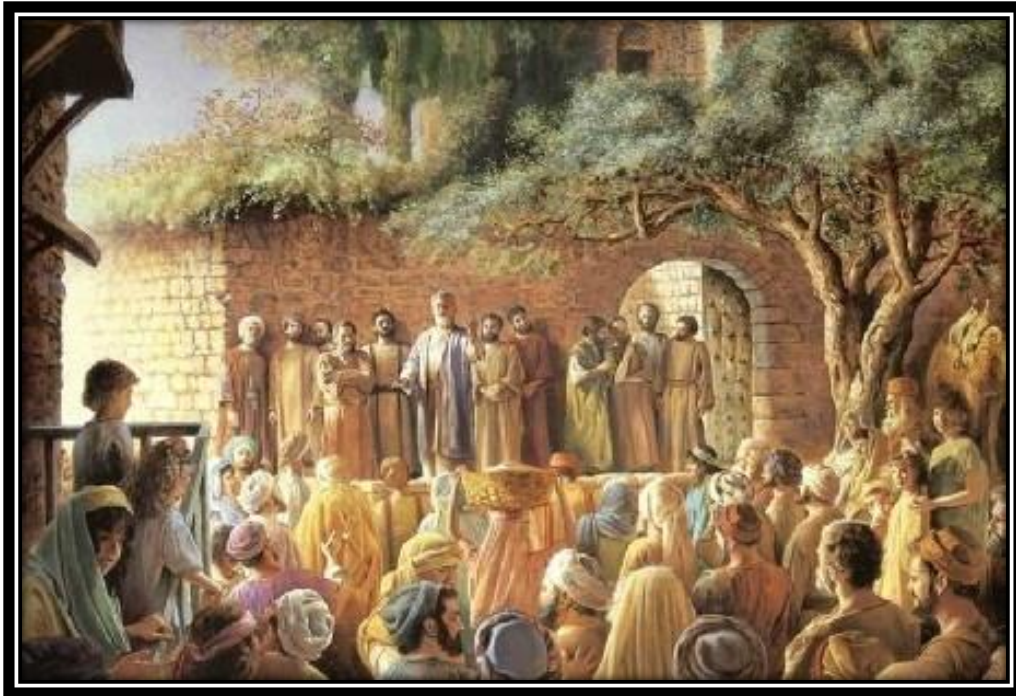
## Peter's Sermon on the day of Pentecost



**P**eter gave the lengthy sermon on the day of Pentecost. That's was the wonderful and great response sermon. His single sermon turned three thousand people towards The Christ. If we compare this to the present world, three thousand sermons are unable to turn a single person towards the Christ. He was used as the fire brand in that event. Now-a-days we see many people coming to front though the alter call. We really do not know how many are the real converts? In India generally many people come front towards the

stage in the meetings when they were given the alter call. As they were poor, they expect some help from the person who gave the alter call. If they were any foreigners, multitudes of people were come front, by expecting help. They print in the news letters, that thousands of people were accepted Jesus as their personal savior. Here the real story was very different. Peter`s meeting was not like this. The three thousand people were the real. I can say he was so blessed by God to lead such big crowd with a single message to Christ Jesus.

## Gist of Peter's Sermon at Pentecost



eter standing with the eleven lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea

**P**and all who dwell in Jerusalem let this be known to you, and give ear to my words.

For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with

mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know, this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, losing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. For David says concerning him, I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God rose up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool. Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified. Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do? And Peter said to them, repent and is baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone



whom the Lord our God calls to himself. And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, save yourselves; from this crooked generation. So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Peter died in Rome and his martyrdom came during the reign of Emperor Nero, in AD 64.

Peter crucified on Vatican Hill upside down; declared himself unworthy to die like Jesus.

He was then buried on Vatican Hill.

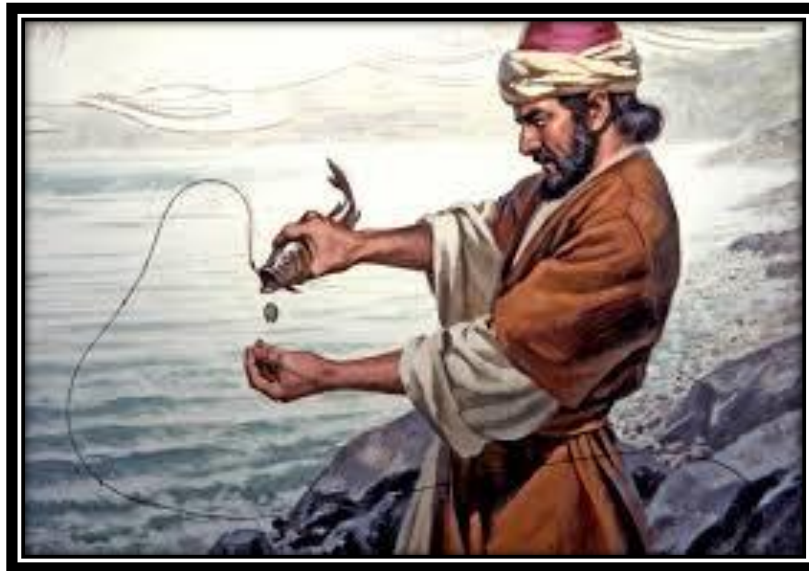




## **How the fisher men technics related to the fishers of men?**

**Go where the fish are**

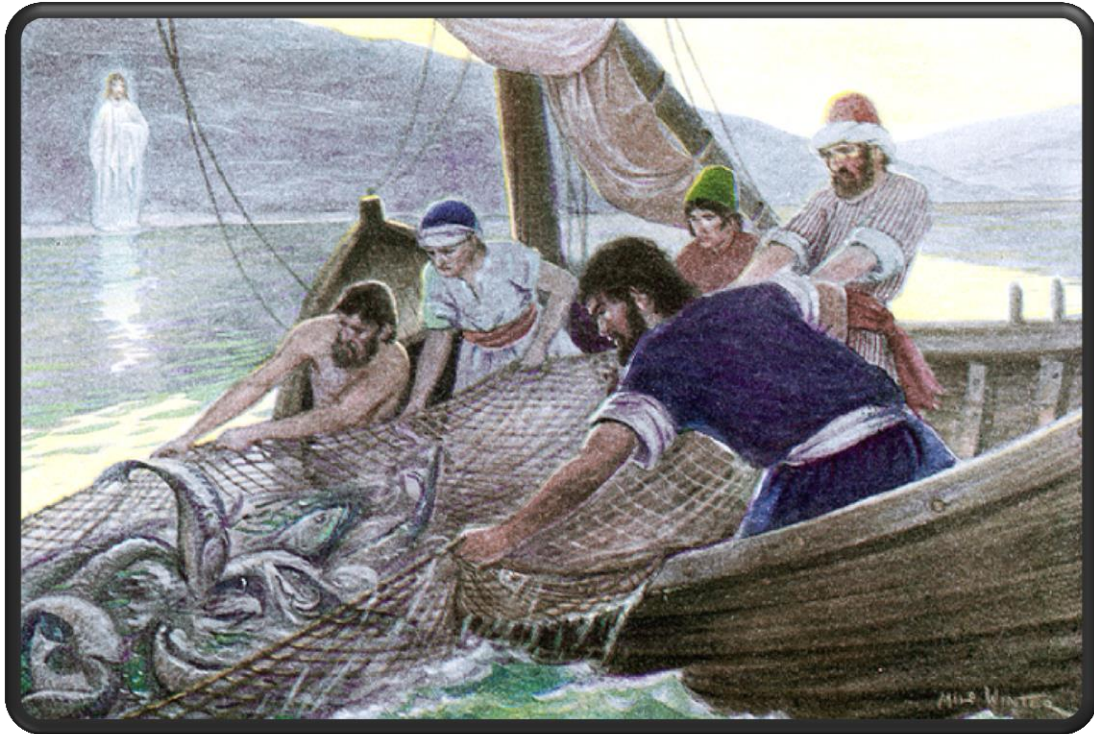
**The Temple Tax**



After Jesus and his disciples arrived in Capernaum, the collectors of the two-drachma temple tax came to Peter and asked; doesn't your teacher pay the temple tax? Yes, he does, he replied. When Peter came into the house, Jesus was the first to speak. What do you think, Simon? he asked. "From whom do the kings of the Earth collect duty and taxes from their own children or from others? From others, Peter answered. Then the children are exempt, Jesus said to him. But so that we may not cause offense, go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it to them for my tax and yours -Matthew 17:24 – 27

**I**n this story Jesus told the disciple to go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. They need to pay the tax. For that Jesus told them to do so. They need to go to the fish to get the money.

## Jesus and the Miraculous Catch of Fish



Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. I'm going out to fish, Simon Peter told them, and they said, we'll go with you. So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. He called out to them, Friends, haven't you any fish? No, they answered. He said, Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some. When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, It is the Lord! As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, it is the Lord, he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread. Jesus said to them, bring some of the fish you have just caught. So Simon Peter climbed back into the

boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, Come and have breakfast. None of the disciples dared ask him, who are you? They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead -John 21:1-14

In this story, disciples were unable to catch the fish out of the whole night hunting. Jesus **I** told them to put the net right side. Then they got large fish, 153. All the night they are fishing at the wrong side.

Coming to the fishers of men, many people were failing in the ministry to catch the men. They are fishing in the wrong side and sometime in the wrong times and places. Fishers of men must go where the people were there.

I know one Pastor, who is working since twenty five years. After twenty five years he got only ten people in the church. When I met him, I asked him what your problem, he told me that he was not interesting in the quantity; he said he want the quality. He don't want to go where the people were there.

Coming to our ministry, we started the ministry with fifteen people in the year 1993 October 1<sup>st</sup>. now we have five thousand people in and around. We have one thousand Sunday school children. They are all from the Hindu families. Our thirty six Sunday school teachers will go to their areas to conduct the Sunday schools. We have around thirty five evangelists in our ministry. All these evangelists go door to door to meet the people. I myself go and meet the people in person.

The greatest command God has given to the church go to the ends of the earth with gospel. What the church is doing now? Constructing large buildings and inviting the people into

**the church. There was no result. Church must go to the midst of the people. In my visits to America, I saw a large church building at New York cost of around fifteen million was closed. I asked the people, what happened? They said, people don't want to go to the churches.**

**So in this technique we need to learn to go where the fish (men) were there. There you will fulfill the plans of God to bring the people to Hos kingdom. Reach the un-reached.**





## **Be patient**

**I'm going out to fish, Simon Peter told them, and they said, we'll go with you. So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing - John 21:3**



**he disciples were there all night to hunt the fish. There were unable to catch any fish.**  
**T****We can understand how much patience they showed towards the hunting. Without**  
**patience we can catch the fish (men).**

**Lot of God servants fail in the ministry due to the hurry-ness to bring the people to the church. They don't practice the patience. I have seen many churches were closed due to lack of patience. It is not easy to get the people to the church. Most of the members go here and there. They don't stay with one church. Some people come to the church for their needs; some people will come for the possessions. We need much patience to bring the people to the church. There was problem with the people inside also. Some people create problems within the church. With patience only we can bring the people to the church and also run the church.**



## **Work with persevere**

**Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything - James 1:4**



**perseverance is very important to the fisher men, otherwise they can hunt the fish.**

**P**Coming to the ministry say the fishers of men, this very important. This was the lack in the present mission fields. Many people do the ministry for fun. Parents make everything for them, like church building the huge campus with the Bible College, orphanage and the schools. How can they work with persevere? Many ministries were going down after their parent's dismissal. If go through the life and history of the pioneer missionaries, they worked with their heart soul and mind. They reached the destiny of their targets in the ministry.

**David Livingston owned continent of Africa for God with the persevere. He dedicated the whole life for that work. That made him to reach the goal.**

**Coming to our ministry we did the great work with persevere. We faced lot of problems and the attacks through the Hindu people. When we persevere for the work, it leads to the highs of the mission. That's what we are experiencing all of our life time in the ministry. When you work with persevere, we see the fruits in the ministry.**



## Have courage

**When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus - Acts 4:13**



ishers of men need the courage to do the ministry. We are living in the world where we have much opposition in the ministry. In our country India it is very difficult to do the ministry. Christianity is the minor here. We are hardly 2.5 percentages. In that we have the nominal Christians and the backbiters like Judas, without courage we can do the ministry. In our ministry we were dragged to the police stations and to the courts for the sake of ministry. Group of people came and beat my wife for the sake of ministry. In such situations, if we don't have the courage, we can do the ministry. We need to stand with courage in the attacks of the people, needs of the ministry. Sometimes for the existence also.

Coming to our ministry, we have faced all kinds of troubles, struggling for food, milk to our child. Pay the bills. Many people suggested us to stop the ministry and go for the secular jobs for existence. We had some days in our life without food. Many days we were unable to go out as we have single penny to pay for anything. I had an experience of have no good cloths. We had faced shames and dishonors, what else we can say? All kinds of pressures we faced in the life. We were able to stand in the God, only through the courage given by the Him.



COURAGE

## **An eye for the right moment**

**In a flash; in the twinkling of an eye; at the last trumpet, for the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed - 1 Corinthians 15:52**



**F**isher men need to keep an eye for the right movement to catch the fish. If he doesn't have the eye for the right movement, he cannot catch the fish.

Coming to the fishers of men, this is very essential to catch the men for Christ. Fishers of men must use the right movement to present Christ, right movement to keep the meetings. Say everything in the right movement. Sometimes the fishers of men do the right things in the wrong time. They will face the trouble. As we are living in the Hindu country, we must use the eye for the right movement. We work with the Hindu converts. Most of their



relatives still live in the Hinduism. When their festivals times come, we need to plan our meetings with wisdom in the different time to avoid the disturbance. We need to keep an eye to present Christ in the right time. One of the evangelists here in India preached at the Hindu pilgrim area and caused the lot of disturbance to the whole Christian community. Fishers of men must have an eye for the right moment to present the Christ to the non-Christians.



## **Fishing in various methods**

**Fisherman use different methods to catch fish. We shared all of them in the fisher men methods. Now we discuss the fishers of men various methods to catch men for the Christ. It is not easy to bring some to Christ.**

### **Our spiritual eyes must open first**

**We must have Jesus in our lives to bring someone to Christ. Being the blind, we cannot lead the blind men.**

**“He also told them this parable: "Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into a pit?" - Luke 6:39**



### **Present Christ through life**

**You need to present Christ through your life, not through speech. Works will speak louder than speech.**



## **We need to shine the light of Jesus through our lives**

**Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, darkness will cover the earth, And deep darkness the peoples; But the LORD will rise upon you, And His glory will appear upon you. “And nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes round about, and see; they all gather together, they come to you. Your sons will come from afar, and your daughters will be carried in the arms. Then you will see and be radiant, And your heart will thrill and rejoice; Because the abundance of the sea will be turned to you, The wealth of the nations will come to you - Isaiah 60:1-5**





## Pray and Act

Prayer is very essential to lead someone to Christ. No prayer no power. Prayer will **P**prepare us and the other person to listen the gospel. Prayer changes things. In our ministry, prayer is the great weapon to win the souls. After presenting the Christ, it is very needed to lead them in the prayer life.



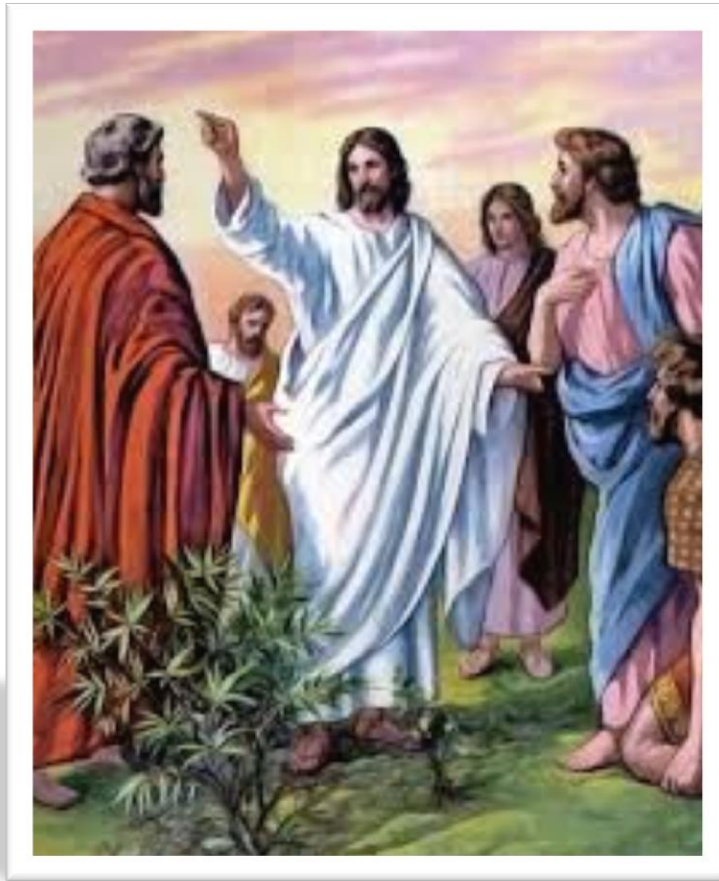


## Personal Evangelism

**T**his is another method to bring people to Christ. Jesus himself met the people in person to teach or preach. He also sent disciples to meet people in their own places.



## **Jesus Sends Out the Seventy-Two**



After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. When you enter a house, first say, Peace to this house. If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. Heal the sick who are there and tell them, The kingdom of God has come near to you. But when you enter a town and are not

welcomed, go into its streets and say, even the dust of your town we wipe from our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God has come near. I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town. Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. But it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you. And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted to the heavens? No, you will go down to Hades. Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects me; but whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me - Luke 10:1-16.





## Radio and T.V Ministry

We can reach many people through radio and T.V. this is one of the best methods to reach the un-reached. We can go to their houses. Radio will reach the people where we cannot go there in person. Many people came to Jesus through these ministries.





## Each one -Catch one

**T**his was the method to bring many to Jesus in the faster way. Through the radio and T.V we can reach some people. There we have the problem of languages. Most of the programs run in English. Many countries in the world don't speak English language. Coming to the regional languages, there are very less programs.

We adopted this method of “each one catch one” if every Christian do this, we can bring the whole world to Jesus in very faster way. Because of this method, our church is growing rapidly in the number and spirit. We believe that the living church is the growing church.

There are many other methods like youth meetings, children camps, women meetings, crusades, now-a-days through the internet and many other ways.

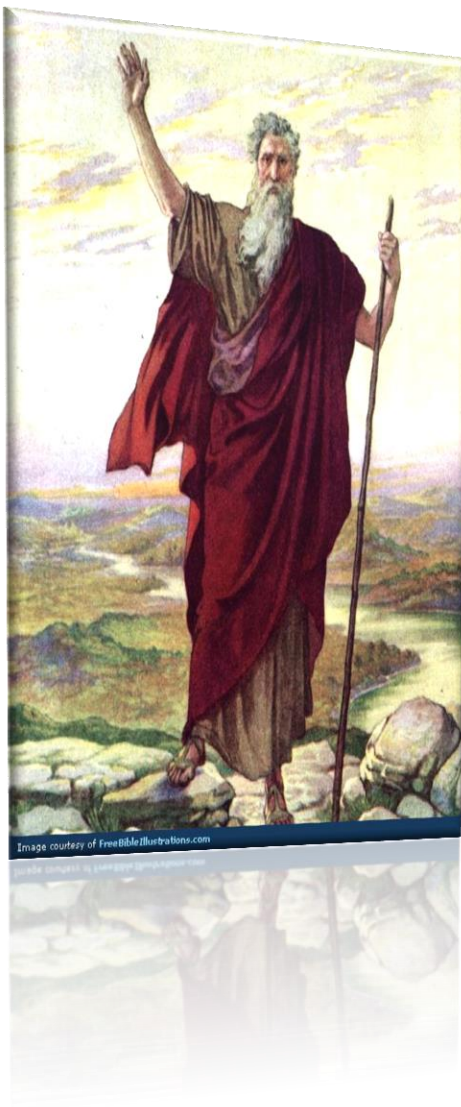
“To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some” - 1 Corinthians 9:22



## Keep him-self out of sight

**“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world” - James**

**1:27**



**F**or the fishers of men this is very important to keep him-self out of sight. We must see the needs of the people and to lead them in the spiritual way. Many God servants are failing in their ministries due to the lack of this. Most of the ministry in these days became the money making ministries. They don't care the people.

**“The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it” - John 10:12**

**The real Shepherd gives his life for the sheep.**

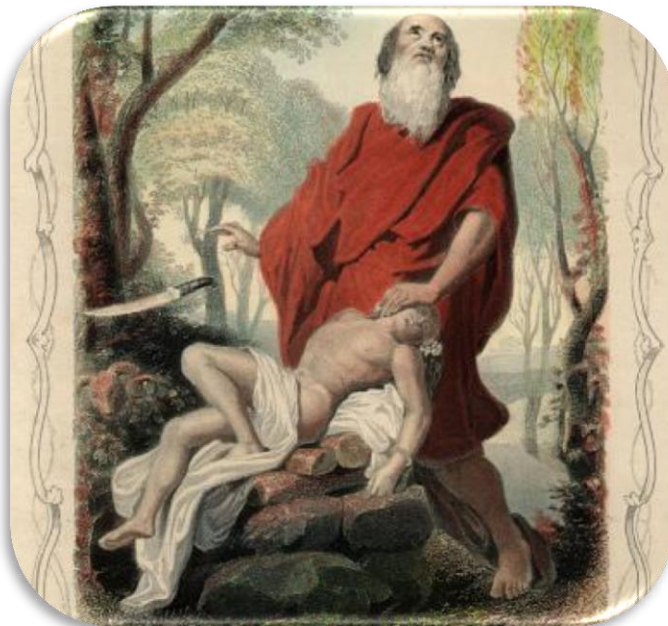
**“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep” - John 10:11**

**“Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them--not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve” - 1 Peter 5:2**

**We are following this method one hundred percent, that's the reason for the rapid growth our ministry. We are answerable to God for His sheep, let us do it with the effective way to please Him.**

## Must have faith

**“Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him” - Hebrews 11:6**

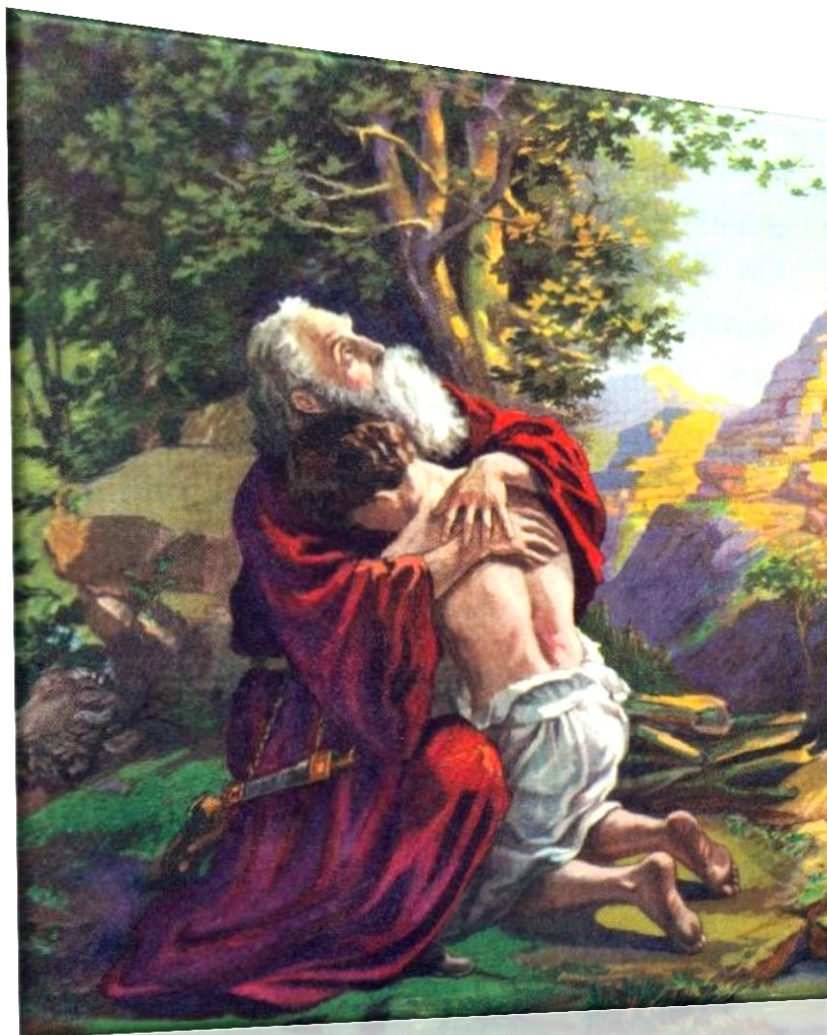


**F**ishers of men must have the faith. With our faith we can do nothing. To reach the gospel, we need much faith. Faith in the God; which was led us to reach the unreached. We go through the eleventh chapter of the Hebrews, we will see the heroes of the cross who lived with faith and performed the great works of God through their lives.

**“through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated the world was not**

worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground. These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, 40 since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect – Hebrews 11:33 – 39

Coming to our ministry, we teach four important things to the congregation. 1.Faith, 2.Prayer, 3.Word of God, 4.Fellowship. Every day is the new day for us. We depend for everything on God. He is leading us and providing the needs of the ministry. We can see the wonders of God through faith.





## Nature of Wake Up

**"This is why it is said: "Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you"  
-Ephesians 5:14**

**"I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the LORD sustains me" - Psalm 3:5**

**N**ature of wake up is very important for the fishers of men. Now-a-days many God servants are sleeping. That was the reason, they were unable to reach the unreached. Wake up in the body and wake up in the spirit. The last night of Jesus's life on the face of earth at Gethsemane garden He taught them to wake up and pray.

**"Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak" - Matthew 26:41**

**"Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man" - Luke 21:36**

Wake up to pray wake up to reach the people. We follow this in our ministry. As myself do many prayers. Wake up early in the morning by 4:30am and pray for the ministry including the family and the congregation. Now wake up for the ministry is giving good results to win the souls for Christ.



## **Long rope**

**“Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken” - Ecclesiastes 4:12**

**“Concerning Israel he says, "All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and obstinate people" - Romans 10:21**

**“All day long I have held out my hands to an obstinate people, who walk in ways not good, pursuing their own imaginations” - Isaiah 65:2**



**A** Fisher man gives the long rope to the fish. Here it is very important for the fishers of men to follow that. The long rope to win the souls for the Christ. God himself giving long rope to His people come back to him. As the matter of fact, if God don't give the long rope, there will no human on the face of earth.

Coming to my life and ministry, by typing this I am crying; because the Living God gave me the long rope to stand for Him. There were many occasions took place in my life that could commit suicide. God gives the long rope to everyone to repent and come to Him.

In the ministry we face many Judases. Among the twelve apostles there was one Judas. I can say, if the church has hundred and twenty people, there will be twelve Judases in that

congregation. I myself saw many people like that in the ministry. We encourage the people to grow in the spiritual life. For some people we give the importance and give some responsibilities. In the beginning stage they show the obedience, gradually they develop with the selfish motives and rebel against the authorities. Mostly we see this culture with the choir leaders. In one of my American visits, I was with one church for some time. That pastor was good person and helped the Indian ministry a lot. In his church there was a choir leader, he got his own equipment. He use to lead the choir in the effective way. Gradually, he changed his methods, before the pastor comes to the church, this choir leader finish his singing and preaching starts the alter call prayers. When pastor enter in to the church he uses see this kind of situation every Sunday. I shared with pastor that the choir leader was not doing right. Pastor asked me to speak to him. When I told him about that, the choir leader said that the Holy Ghost leading him like that. I told him Holy Ghost do not do anything out of the way. Holy Ghost stands for the discipline only. He left the church. We need to give the long rope for the disobedient people. Sometimes they may change. Most of the people do not change.



## **Team work**

**“Two are better off than one, because together they can work more effectively. If one of them falls down, the other can help him up. But if someone is alone and falls, it’s just too bad, because there is no one to help him. If it’s cold, two can sleep together and stay warm but how can you keep warm by yourself. Two men can resist an attack that would defeat one man alone. A rope of three cords is hard to break. We are better together than we are on our own” - Ecclesiastes 4:9 - 12**

**“When the Israelites were rebuilding the wall in Jerusalem, the work got tough and they got discouraged. Finally, they just gave up. So Nehemiah reorganized the work into teams. Half would stand guard with their spears and swords and protect everyone. The other half would work. Then they’d alternate their positions. He posted everyone by groups and families, so they could encourage and support each other” - Nehemiah 4**

**“When Jesus sent people out in ministry; he sent them out in twos. He did not expect them to minister alone” - Mark 6:7**

**“Paul specifically mentions seven people who were part of his ministry team. He brought others along, not only to train them, but also to keep him encouraged” - Acts 24**

**fishermen need the team when go for the more fish. But for the fishers of men needs**  
**F****the team work. Coming to the church ministries, it’s the team work. Everyone must do their jobs in the respective way. I always tell one example. Church is like the four wheel vehicle. Four wheels must work to run the vehicle. If the three wheels say to the fourth wheel we don’t need you to run the vehicle, there the troubles arise. If suppose one of the tire got puncture . The whole vehicle would be stopped. Likewise everyone in the ministry needed person.**



**“Coming to our ministry, we have the wide ministry. We have the children, women, youth and village ministry. I am just the overseer. Everyone do their own works. I will see things are going on well or not. Everyone do the jobs interested to them. When we forget this is team work, there the problems arise. Scriptures are very clear that we like the body.**

**Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ” - 1 Corinthians 12:12**

**“So in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others”  
- Romans 12:5**

**“Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it” - 1 Corinthians 12:27**



## **Segregating**

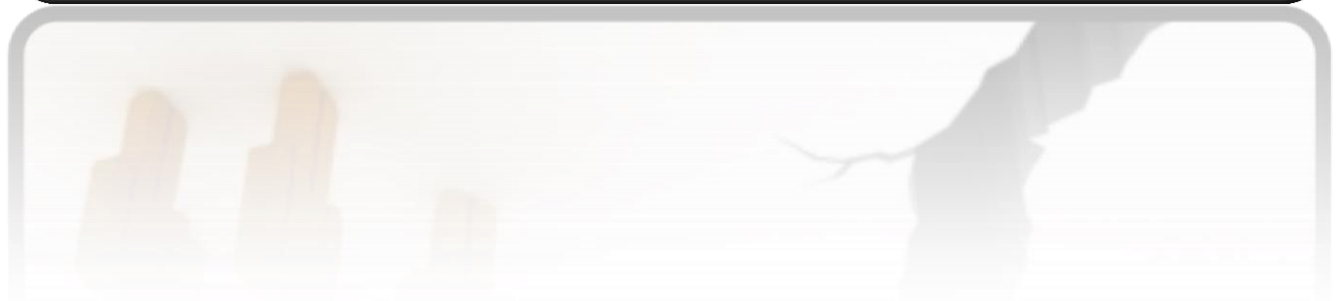
**“Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, “I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you” - 2 Corinthians 6:14-17**

**“When I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, “If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?” We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified” - Galatians 2:14-16**

**Fisher men Segregate the fish and through the un-wanted fish. The fishers of men must follow that to have the better sheep. We cannot club the dark with light. Many Gods children are in the confusion in this matter. Psalmist said in his first Psalm about this.**

**“Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers” – Psalm 1:1**

**A**s for me and ministry we follow this strictly. Sometime our own people involve in the criminal things. We do not keep away from them; you need to face the consequences. God protected me many times from the evil relatives and their deeds. We don't join in the fake ministries also. Lot of fake ministries started in these end times. Because of this awareness the ministry is growing both in the spirit and the number.



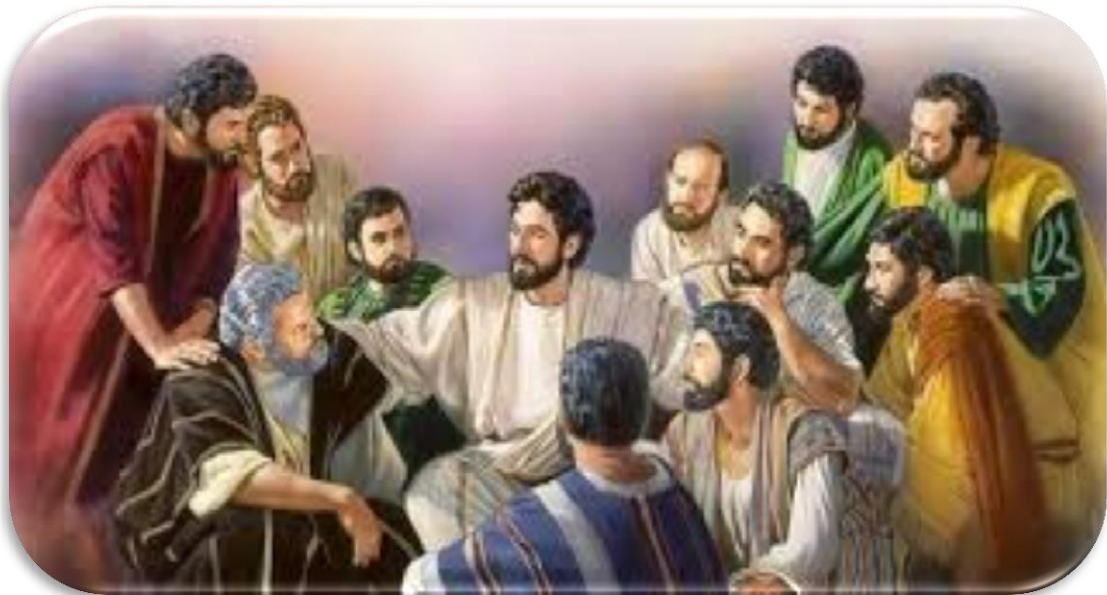
## **Scriptures regarding the Fishers of Men**

### **Make the Disciples**

**Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit - Matthew 28:19**

**“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age” - Matthew 28:19-20**

**For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people - Titus 2:11**



**G**od gave the greatest commandment to the fishers of men to go around the world proclaim the Gospel to the men to make them as the disciples. Preaching makes the followers, teaching makes the disciples. St. Paul desire in his whole ministry was to see the people with Christ likeness. Fishers of men must teach to the people to make them as the disciples. Disciples will make the disciples.



## Concerning Judah and Jerusalem

The vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem that Isaiah son of Amoz saw during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

### A Rebellious Nation

“Hear me, you heavens! Listen, earth! For the Lord has spoken: I reared children and brought them up, but they have rebelled against me. The ox knows its master, the donkey its owner’s manger, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand. Woe to the sinful nation, a people whose guilt is great, a brood of evildoers, children given to corruption! They have forsaken the Lord; they have spurned the Holy One of Israel and turned their backs on him. Why should you be beaten anymore? Why do you persist in rebellion? Your whole head is injured, your whole heart afflicted. From the sole of your foot to the top of your head there is no soundness only wounds and welts and open sores, not cleansed or bandaged or soothed with olive oil. Your country is desolate, your cities burned with fire; your fields are being stripped by foreigners right before you, laid waste as when overthrown by strangers. Daughter Zion is left like a shelter in a vineyard, like a hut in a cucumber field, like a city under siege. Unless the Lord Almighty had left us some survivors, we would have become like Sodom, we would have been like Gomorrah. Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom; listen to the instruction of our God, you people of Gomorrah! The multitude of your sacrifices what are they to me? says the Lord. I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; I have no pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats. When you come to appear before me, who has asked this of you, this trampling of my courts? Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations I cannot bear your worthless assemblies. Your New Moon feasts and your appointed festivals

I hate with all my being. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them.

**When you spread out your hands in prayer, I hide my eyes from you; even when you offer many prayers, I am not listening. Your hands are full of blood! Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong. Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of**

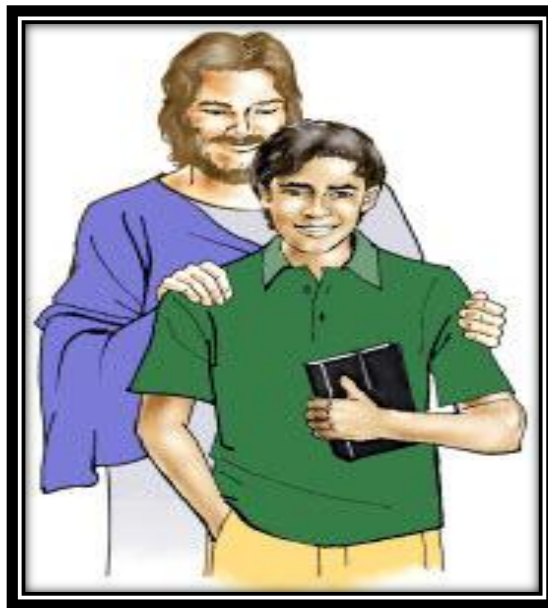


**the widow. Come now, let us settle the matter, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land; but if you resist and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken. See how the faithful city has become a prostitute! She once was full of justice; righteousness used to dwell in her but now murderers! Your silver has become dross; your choice wine is diluted with water. Your rulers are rebels, partners with thieves; they all love bribes and chase after gifts. They do not defend the cause of the fatherless; the widow's case does not come before them. Therefore the Lord, the Lord Almighty, the Mighty One of Israel, declares: Ah! I will vent my wrath on my foes and avenge myself on my enemies. I will turn my hand against you; I will thoroughly purge away your dross and remove all your impurities. I will restore your leaders as in days of old, your rulers as at the beginning. Afterward you will be called the City of Righteousness, the Faithful City. Zion will be delivered with justice, her penitent ones with righteousness. But rebels and sinners will both be broken, and those who forsake the Lord will perish. You will be ashamed because of the sacred oak sin which you have delighted; you will be disgraced because of the gardens that you have chosen. You will be like an oak with fading leaves, like a garden without water. The mighty man will become tender and his work a spark; both will burn together, with no one to quench the fire” - Isaiah 1:1-31**

## **Christ who lives in me**

**For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ  
Jesus - 1 Timothy 2:5**

**I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And  
the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave  
himself for me - Galatians 2:20**



**F**ishers of men must die themselves to focus the Christ Jesus through their lives. They  
bound to present one God, one Mediator between men and God; that was the Lord  
Jesus Christ. Fishers of men must go to the experience of death in the self.

**“Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only  
a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds” - John 12:24**

**Now a days many namely fishers of men wants to build their own kingdoms on the face of  
earth. fishers of men must go to the experience of focusing the Jesus Christ through their  
lives to Glorify Him.**

## **Promise of Restoration**

**While Jeremiah was still confined in the courtyard of the guard, the word of the Lord came to him a second time: This is what the Lord says, he who made the earth, the Lord who formed it and established it—the Lord is his name: Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know. For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the houses in this city and the royal palaces of Judah that have been torn down to be used against the siege ramps and the sword in the fight with the Babylonians: They will be filled with the dead bodies of the people I will slay in my anger and wrath. I will hide my face from this city because of all its wickedness. Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security. I will bring Judah and Israel back from captivity and will rebuild them as they were before. I will cleanse them from all the sin they have committed against me and will forgive all their sins of rebellion against me. Then this city will bring me renown, joy, praise and honor before all nations on earth that hear of all the good things I do for it; and they will be in awe and will tremble at the abundant prosperity and peace I provide for it. This is what the Lord says: ‘You say about this place, It is a desolate waste, without people or animals. Yet in the towns of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem that are deserted, inhabited by neither people nor animals, there will be heard once more The sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, and the voices of those who bring thank offerings to the house of the Lord, saying, Give thanks to the Lord Almighty, for the Lord is good; his love endures forever. For I will restore the fortunes of the land as they were before, says the Lord. This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘In this place, desolate and without people or animals—in all its towns there will again be pastures for shepherds to rest their flocks. In the towns of the hill country, of the western foothills and of the Negev, in the territory of Benjamin, in the villages around Jerusalem and in the towns of Judah, flocks will again pass under the hand of the one who counts them, says the Lord. The days are coming, declares the Lord, ‘when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line; he will do what is just and right in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The**



**Lord Our Righteous Savior. For this is what the Lord says: David will never fail to have a man to sit on the throne of Israel, nor will the Leviticus priests ever fail to have a man to stand before me continually to offer burnt offerings, to burn grain offerings and to present sacrifices. The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah: This is what the Lord says: If you can break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night no longer come at their appointed time, then my covenant with David my servant—and my covenant with the Levites who are priests ministering before me can be broken and David will no longer have a descendant to reign on his throne. I will make the descendants of David my servant and the Levites who minister before me as countless as the stars in the sky and as measureless as the sand on the seashore. The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah: Have you not noticed that these people are saying, The Lord has rejected the two kingdoms he chose'? So they despise my people and no longer regard them as a nation. This is what the Lord says: If I have not made my covenant with day and night and established the laws of heaven and earth, then I will reject the descendants of Jacob and David my servant and will not choose one of his sons to rule over the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. For I will restore their fortunes and have compassion on them"**

**- Jeremiah 33:1-26**



## **How beautiful are the feet of fishers of men**

**How are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, how beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news - Romans 10:15**



**G**od blessed the fishers of men in all means. The scriptures clearly mentioning that their feet were blessed. The reason that those feet walked to preach the gospel and present the Jesus to the gentiles.

Coming to my life and ministry, God blessed me to walk around five hundred village in India and many places around the world. I have the experience of preaching to the foreigners by going to their houses.

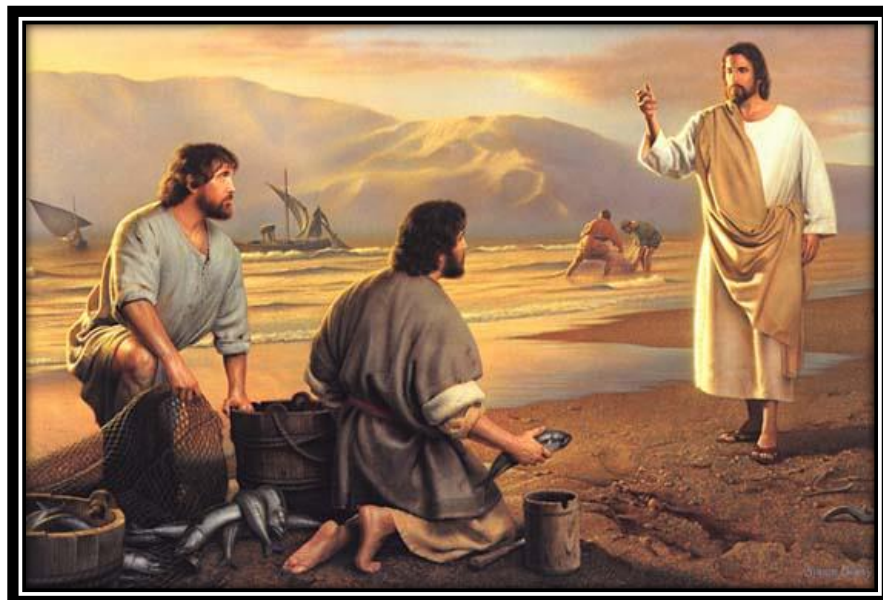
Many times people in around the globe, washed my feet by saying these feet were blessed by the living God to walk for Him, to reach the un-reached. Those situations made to cry. I praised the God for the way he is using this unworthy person for His glory.

## **Chosen ones**

**You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you - John 15:16**

## **Choose and appointed**

**F**ishers of men were choose and appointed by the God. It's not that we love Him; He loved us and appointed to do the ministry. Chosen and appointed people will have the deferent way of doing the ministry. They always do things to glorify the God. Their motto is to win souls for the extinction of kingdom of God. Now-a-days we see many namely fishers of men who work to make the money and build their kingdoms on the face of earth. I strongly believe that the God servant must be chosen and appointed by the God. I am sharing this with personal experience. Once you are the chosen and appointed, God will take care about you. He leads you and feeds you to use for His glory.





## Bear fruit

**T**he fisher of men must bear fruit. That was the blessing God has given them. A living person is growing person. A living ministry is growing ministry. A living church is the growing church. We started the church with fifteen people, now it's grown up to five thousand in and out. We love to reach fifty thousand and more. I myself had the fruits in the family. I started as the single person. Now we are five with wife and son, daughter in law with grandson. Biological growth and spiritual growth. Time to time God is making me and the ministry bear fruits.

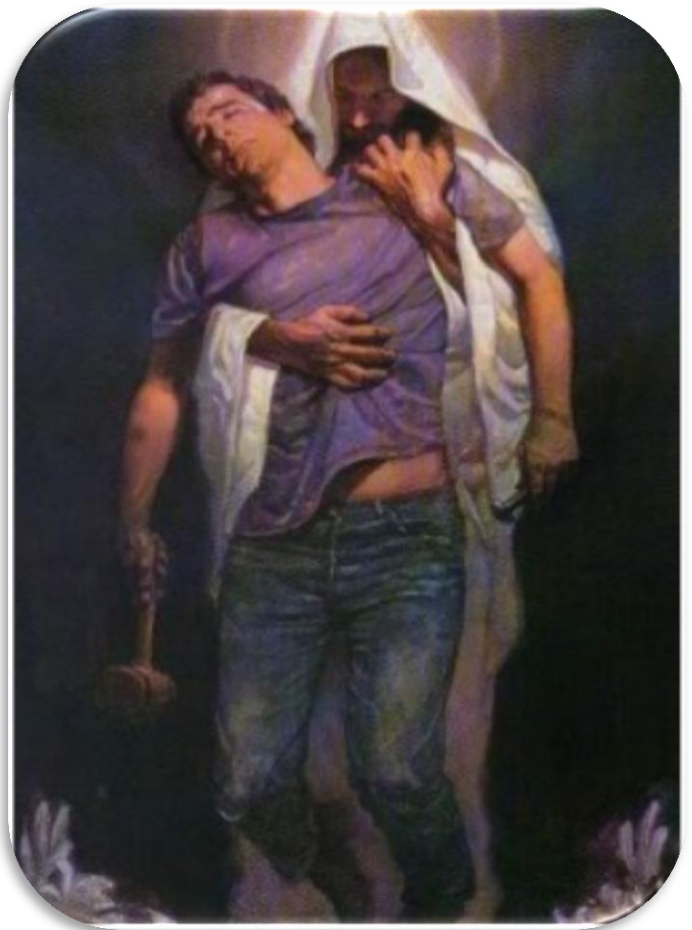




## Abide in Christ

**F**isher of men must abide in Christ. With our Jesus we can do nothing. Let us see the statement of Psalmist.

“Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever” - Psalm 73:25-26.



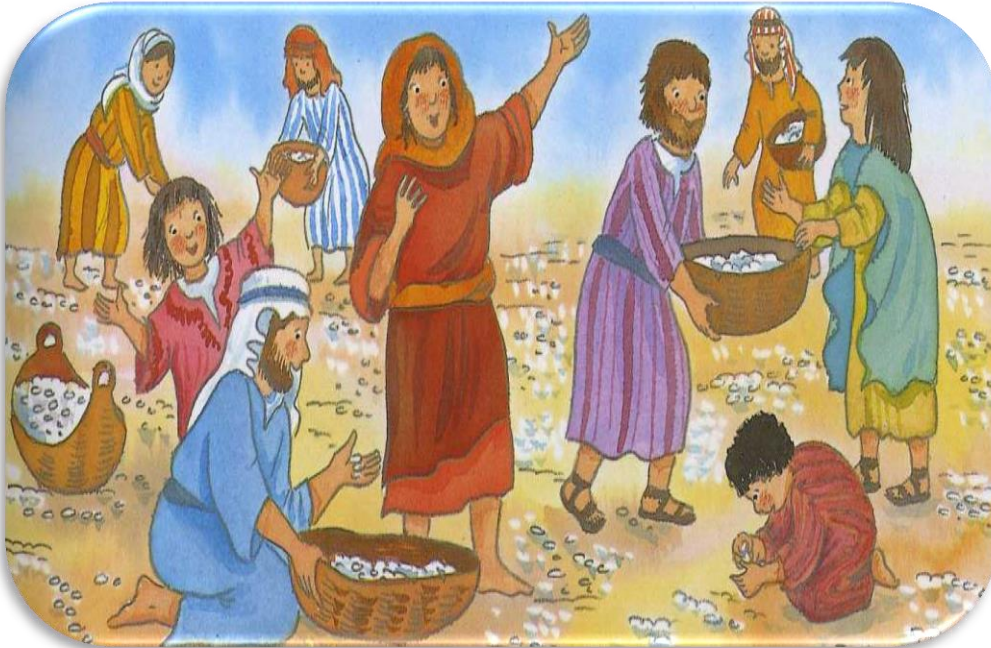
## **Fishers of men you will get whatever you ask**

**“Whatever you ask in My name that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it” - John 14:13– 14**

**“Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours” - Mark 11:24**

**Fishers of men will get whatever they ask. God pleases to help His children.**

**“If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him” - Matthew 7:11**



**G**od will provide all the needs of the fishers of men. In my life of ministry I am experiencing this every day. Every day is the new day for us. Ministry extended a lot. We have many needs also the bills to pay. Great God is providing every need to stand for Him. God will never disappoint any of His children. Only thing we need to keep the faith on Him.

## Honor and Justification

**“Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, you shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain and the laborer deserves his wages” - 1 Timothy 5:17-18**

**“Yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified” -**

**Galatians 2:16**



**G**od honors the fishers of men and also justified them. They are honored by the people and justified by the God. We see that in our ministry, the congregation honoring us in the name of Jesus and make us very happy. That will boost us in the spirit to do the more effective work. When people blame us for nothing, the justification of God makes us to stand for the living God.

## Paul Accepted by the Apostles

**T**hen after fourteen years, I went up again to Jerusalem, this time with Barnabas. I took Titus along also. I went in response to a revelation and, meeting privately with those esteemed as leaders, I presented to them the gospel that I preach among the Gentiles. I wanted to be sure I was not running and had not been running my race in vain. Yet not even Titus, who was with me, was compelled to be circumcised, even though he was a Greek. This matter arose because some false believers had infiltrated our ranks to spy on the freedom we have in Christ Jesus and to make us slaves. We did not give in to them for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you.



As for those who were held in high esteem whatever they were makes no difference to me; God does not show favoritism they added nothing to my message. On the contrary, they recognized that I had been entrusted with the task of preaching the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been to the circumcised. For God, who was at work in Peter as an apostle to the circumcised, was also at work in me as an apostle to the Gentiles. James, Cephas and John, those esteemed as pillars, gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship when they recognized the grace given to me. They agreed that we should go to the Gentiles, and they to the circumcised. All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I had been eager to do all along.



## **Paul Opposes Cephas**

**When Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. For before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray. When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of them all, You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs? We who are Jews by birth and not sinful Gentiles know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified. But if, in seeking to be justified in Christ, we Jews find ourselves also among the sinners, doesn't that mean that Christ promotes sin? Absolutely not. If I rebuild what I destroyed, then I really would be a lawbreaker. For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing" - Galatians 2:1-21**



**F**ishers of men will be accepted by the other fellow fishers of men. That's only because of the oneness in the spirit. This will make someone happy, because the rejection was there among the fishers of men. The acceptance comes only in the God. I faced this experience in my life. Even my own people not accepted me. Co-pastors said that I am not the pastor. There was a pastor fellowship in our town. They refused me to take into that fellowship by saying that I was in the secular job before coming to the full time ministry. It was not bothered me, made me too strong in the God. Now our ministry became wide and we have many pastors in our ministry. We accept all the pastors.

Once someone accepted us means it's not that we were there with them in good and bad. We need to oppose every wrong thing. There was nothing to join with the wrong things, if you join with the wrong things that will be the end of your spiritual life. St. Paul not compromised with any of the wrong things. We should take him as the example to stand for the Jesus. It makes us the good fishers of men.

## **Jesus sends out the Twelve with the Authority**

**Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. As you go, proclaim this message: The kingdom of heaven has come near. Heal the sick, raise the dead, and cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give. Do not get any gold or silver or copper to take with you in your belts no bag for the journey or extra shirt or sandals or a staff, for the worker is worth his keep. Whatever town or village you enter, search there for some worthy person and stay at their house until you leave. As you enter the home, give it your greeting. If the home deserves, let your peace rest on it; if it is not, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, leave that home or town and shake the dust off your feet. Truly I tell you, it will be more bearable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town. I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. Be on your guard; you will be handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues. On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles. But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray**

brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. Truly I tell you, you will not finish going through the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes. The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household, so do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven. Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. 35 For I have come to turn a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law a man's enemies will be the members of his own household. Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it. Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me,



**and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward" - Matthew 10:1-42**

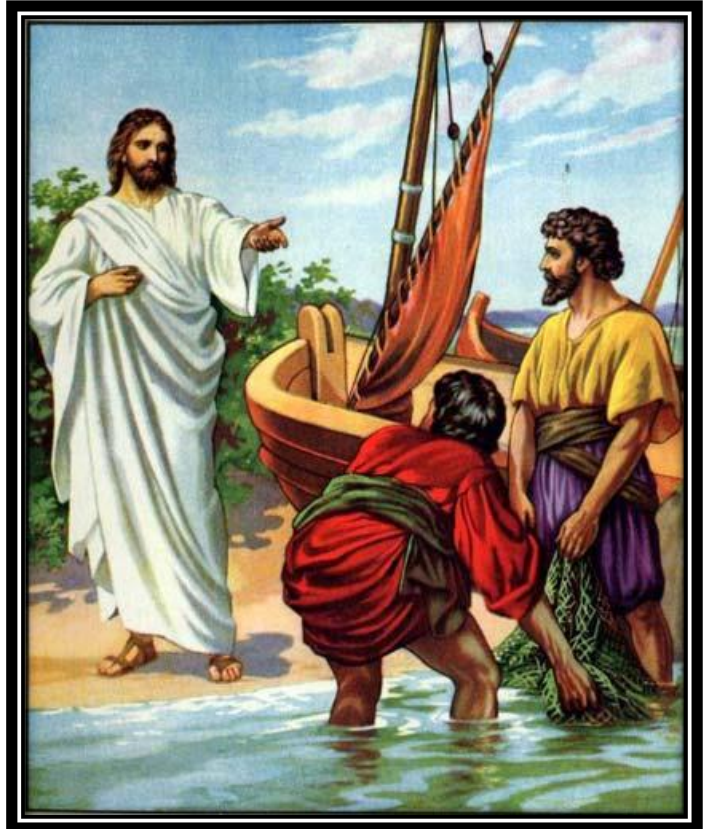


**G**od gave the authority for the fishers of men to perform the miracles by healing sick and cast out the demon spirits, many other wonders to show the power of God and the concern of their salvation.

# Fishing Net for Gospel

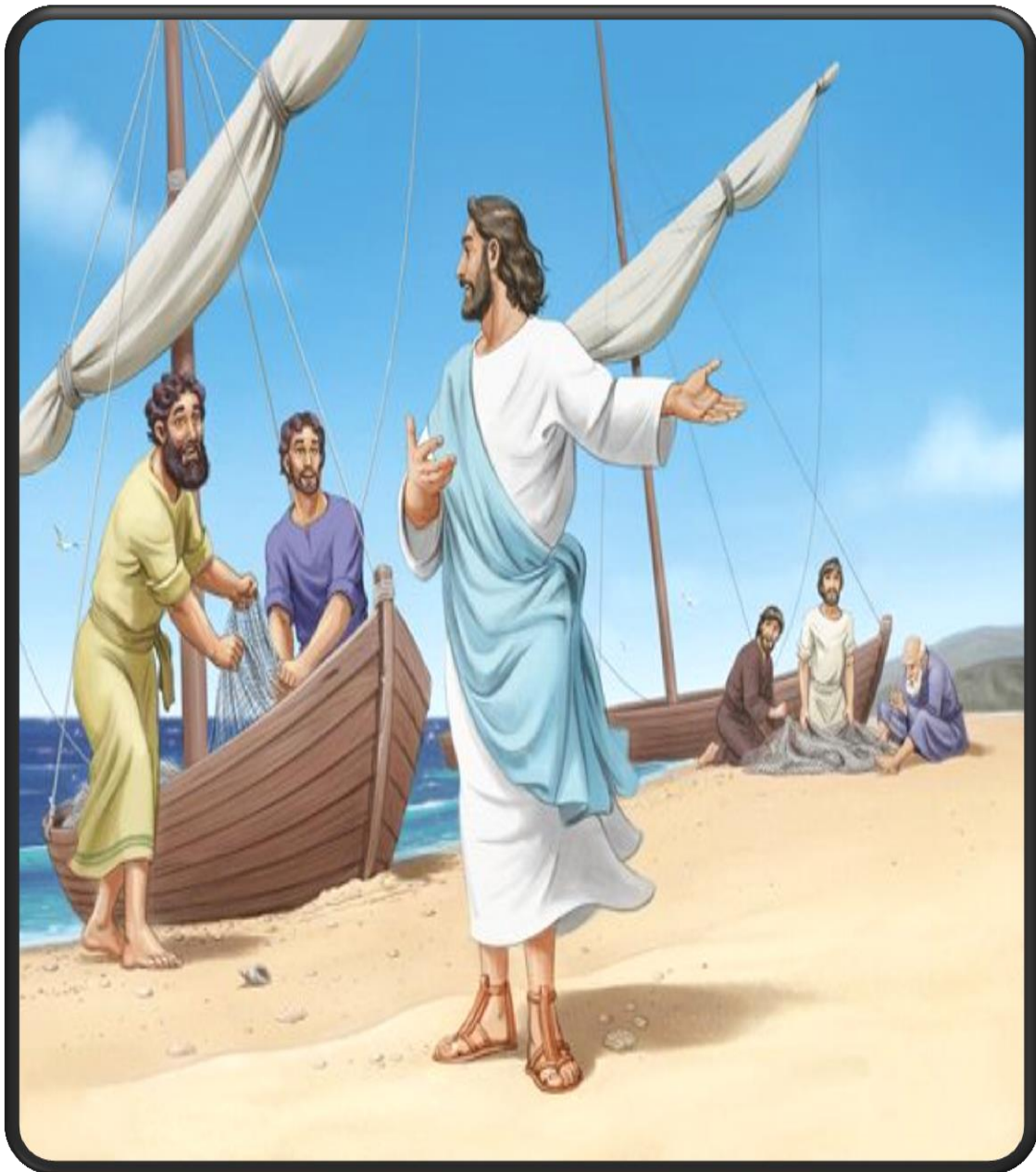
## Jesus Calls His First Disciples

**“Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.” Simon answered, “Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will**



**let down the nets.” When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!” For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.” When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him” - Luke 5:1-11**

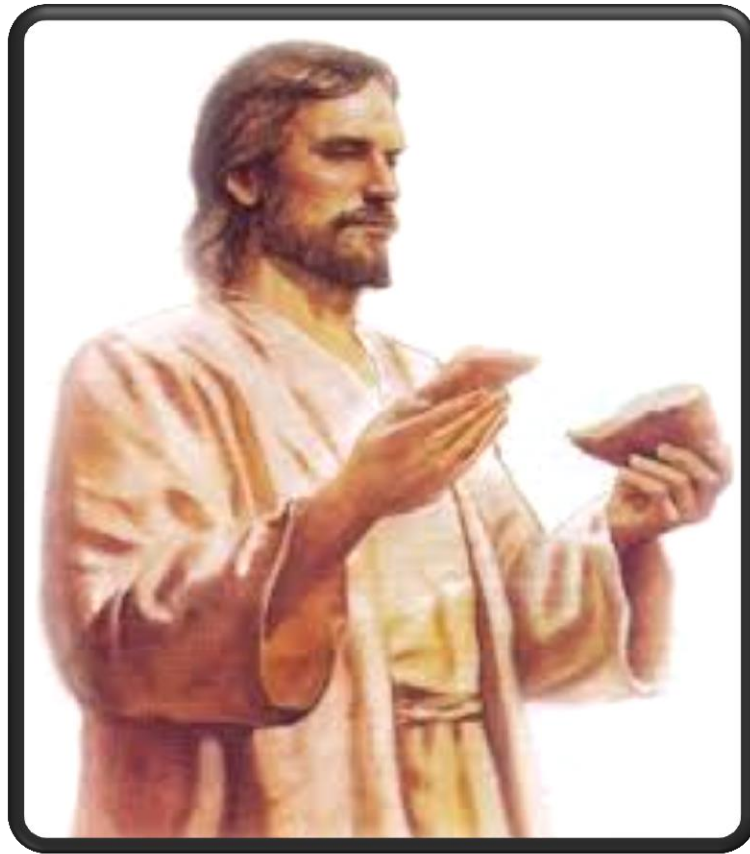
**J**esus visited that place many times and preached the gospel all times. that was the time for Peter and Andrew to listen and encounter the Christ Jesus. Then they got the invitation to leave the nets of fishing and take the nets of gospel. They obeyed and fulfill the mission of Jesus through the hard times of the life experience.



## **Jesus the Bread of Life**

**When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, “Rabbi, when did you get here? Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval. Then they asked him, what must we do to do the works God requires? Jesus answered; the work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent. So they asked him, what sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: He gave them bread from heaven to eat. Jesus said to them, Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world, Sir, they said, always give us this bread. Then Jesus declared, I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. For my Father’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day” - John 6:28-40**

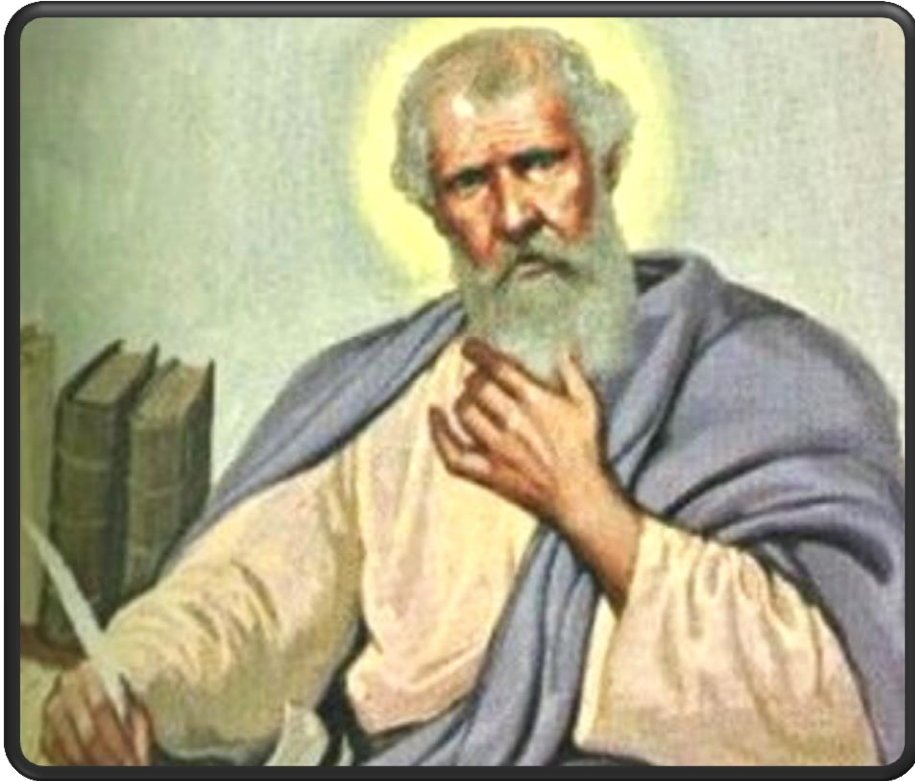




Jesus speaking to them by explaining about the living bread, they may have the thinking that Jesus was feeding the multitudes of people. In these days many pastors and the evangelists are coming to the ministry for the bread. They want to earn soothing on the face of the earth. If we go to the T.V ministry, half of their time they use to beg the people for the Monsey. in the scriptures it says very clearly says “Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things” - Philippians 3:19. Jesus told them; do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. he also told them “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty” Jesus out His teaching He encouraged them to grow in the faith to inherit the heaven.

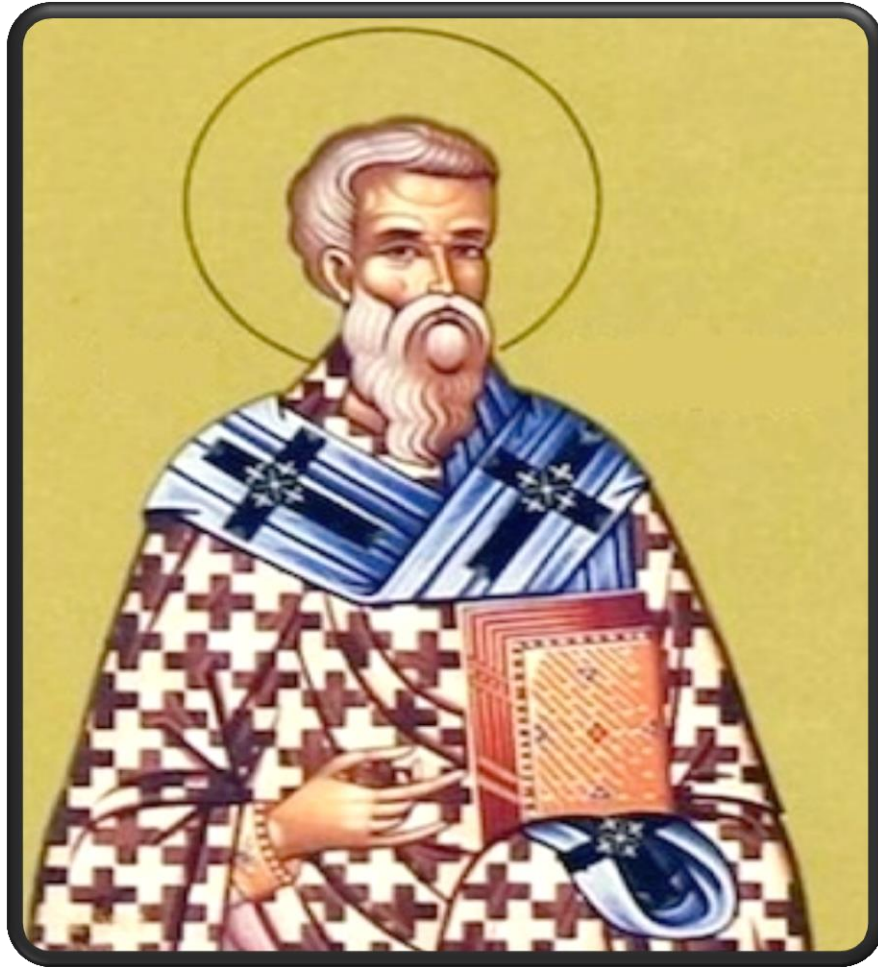
## Saying on “Fishers of men”

### St. Mark the Evangelist



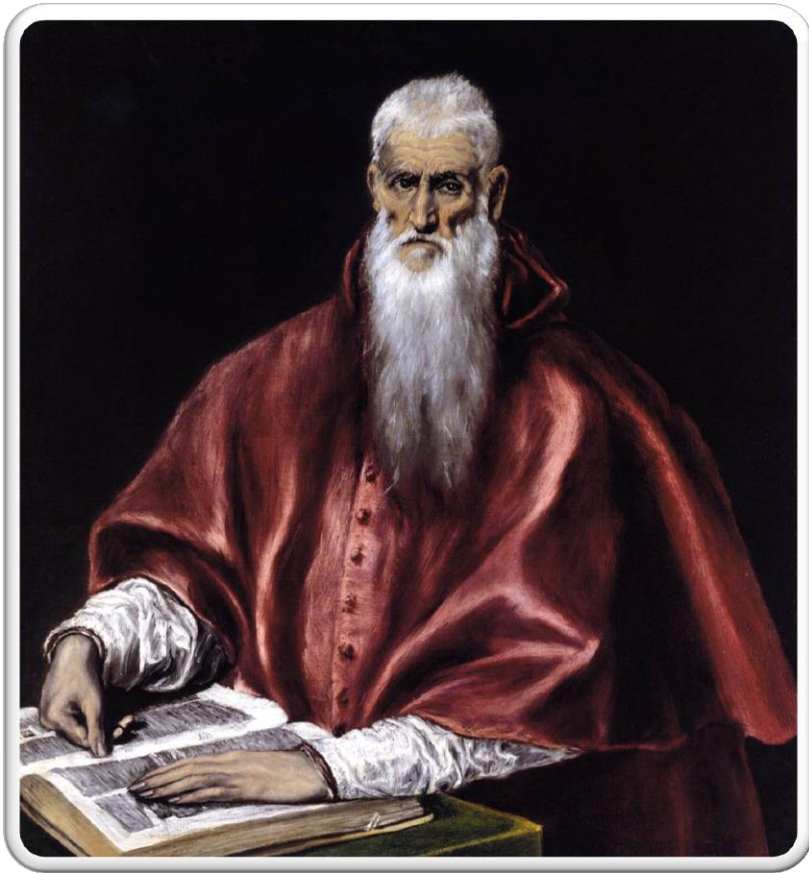
**A**fter John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel. As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men. Then they abandoned their nets and followed him. He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him

## Theophylact



**T**he Lord means that the time of the Law is completed; as if He said, Up to this time the Law was at work; from this time the kingdom of God will work, that is, a conversation according to the Gospel, which is with reason likened to the kingdom of heaven. For when you see a man clothed in flesh living according to the Gospel, do you not say that he has the kingdom of heaven, which is not meat and drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost?

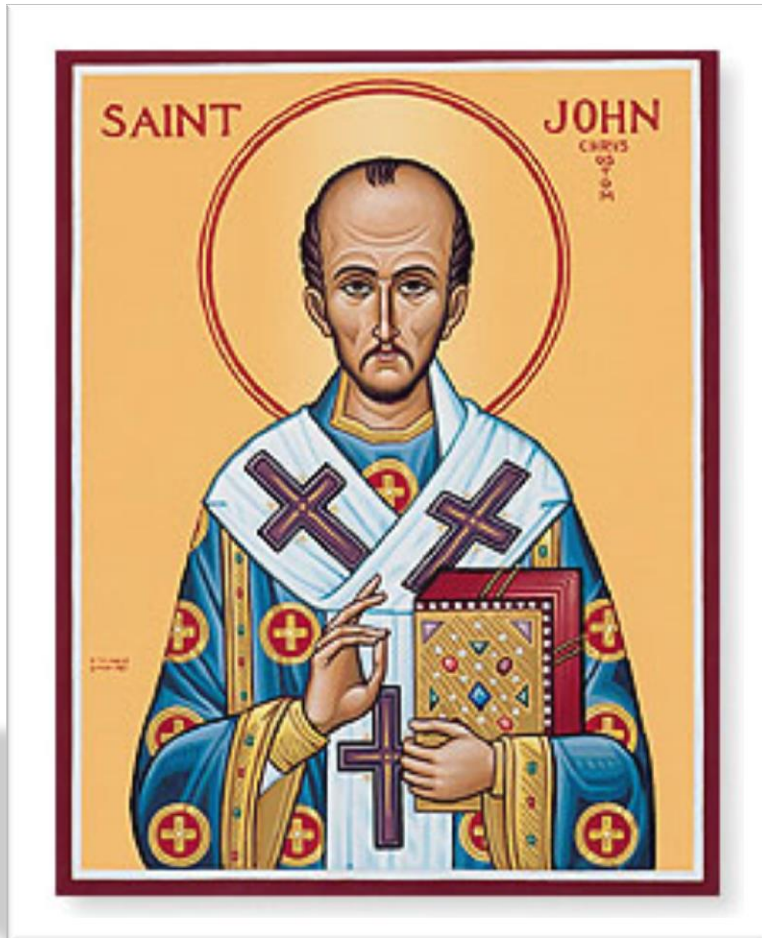
## Jerome



or he must repent, who would keep close to eternal good, that is, to the kingdom of  
**F** God. For he who would have the kernel, breaks the shell; the sweetness of the apple  
makes up for the bitterness of its root; the hope of gain makes the dangers of the sea  
pleasant; the hope of health takes away from the painfulness of medicine. They are able  
worthily to proclaim the preaching of Christ who have deserved to attain to the reward of  
forgiveness; and therefore after he has said, Repent, He subjoins, and believe the Gospel.  
For unless you have believed, you shall not understand.



## St. John Chrysostom



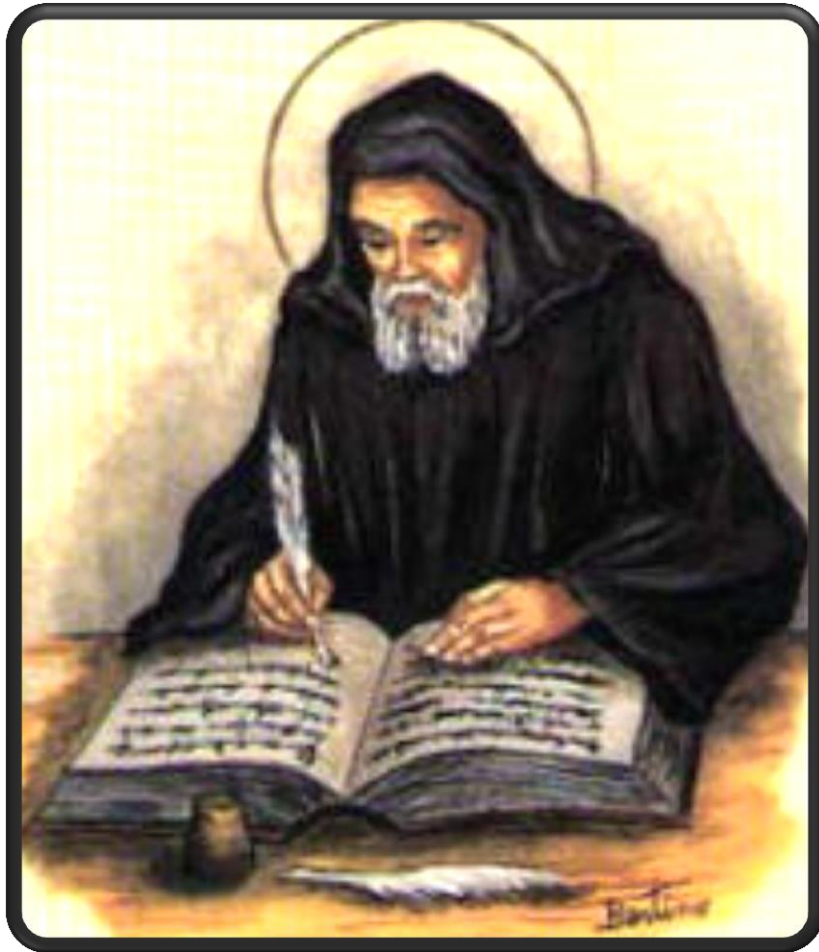
**T**he kingdom of God is essentially the same as the kingdom of heaven, though they differ in idea. For by the kingdom of God is to be understood that in which God reigns; and this in truth is in the region of the living, where, seeing God face to face, they will abide in the good things now promised to them... For it is clear enough that the kingdom of God is confined neither by place nor by time

## St. Remigius



**F**or by the net of holy preaching they drew fish, that is, men, from the depths of the sea, that is, of infidelity, to the light of faith. Wonderful indeed is this fishing! for fishes when they are caught, soon after die; when men are caught by the word of preaching, they rather are made alive

## St. Bede

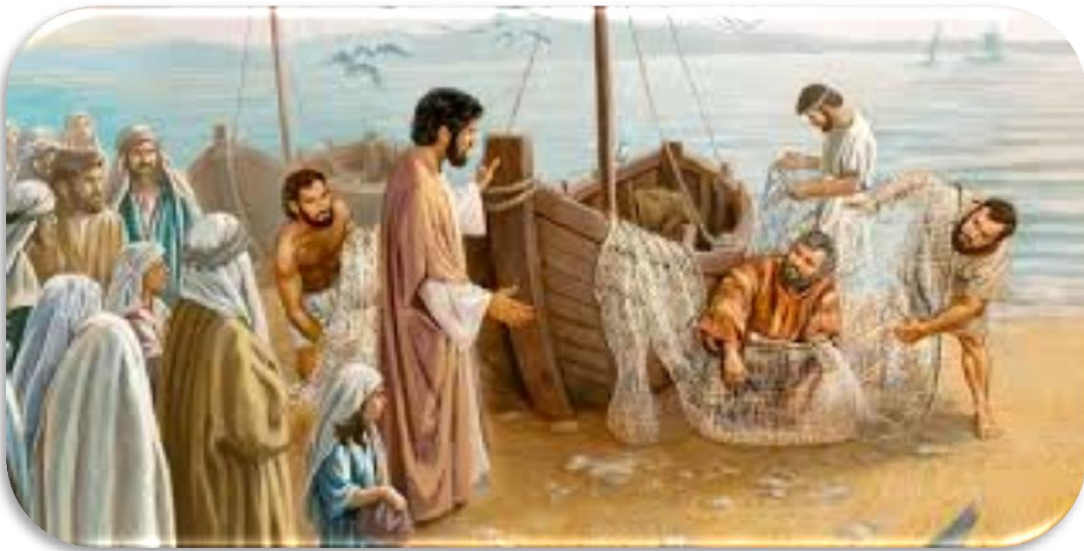


**N**ow fisher's and unlettered men are sent to preach, that the faith of believers might be thought to lie in the power of God, not in eloquence or in learning. It goes on to say, and immediately they left their nets, and followed him - ST. BEDE

## **From My Personal Life**

### **Call for the fishers of men**

**“Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men” - Matthew 4:18-19**



**J**esus walked on those areas many times. But at certain time, He called Andrew and Peter to follow Him to become the fishers of men.

This kind of things will happen for every person on the face of earth. I was the strong Baptist man acquainted with bible knowledge. I was nominal Christian. Have the worldly friends, Spending much time with the friends with late night moving's. As they were the non-Christians, they will have all the worldly life which was not wrong for them. As the friends circle was not good, all types of the worldly things took place in the natural way.



**“Do not be misled: "Bad Company corrupts good character." - 1 Corinthians 15:33**

As the word of God said, I was in the deep involvement with bad friends. Did the street fighting's, roaming with girls, taking the liquors and all kinds of the bad things. By doing these kind of things attending the church regularly, because my father was very strict about our attending church. If he doesn't see us in the church, there was no food for us on that day. For the sake of my father I was the regular attender of the church. There also I had the friends who were close to my bad habits. In this kind of life, I became the youth leader. Our church youth wing called as the Christian Endeavour. They made me as the secretary for the church wing. We use to have the youth prayers on one particular day in a week. Those were the days, where the great spiritual movement took place in our city. The Holy Ghost touching the young people, many were changes and gave their lives to Jesus and doing His works by sharing their testimony to others visiting villages to proclaim the gospel. In those days, the team of the youth going to the different churches to hold the prayer meeting among the youth to bring them to Jesus. According that schedule, they were arranged one day prayer meeting at our church on 7th February 1972 evening at 7:00pm. As I was the youth leader, I was there for the meeting. Good number of youth attended on that day. Everyone was doing their prayers one after one. My turn came to pray around 7:30pm, I started to pray by using all the Bible verses I know. As I was the Baptist man, I was good with the Bible knowledge. While I was in the prayers, the God of Holy Ghost caught my neck; I was unable to do the nominal prayer. I was stopped for a moment and started crying loudly without my knowledge. Then started a different prayer, by accepting all the sins I did till that time, the prayer gone for more than one hour. As the fellow youth had that experience before, they allowed me to pray till I was stopped. After

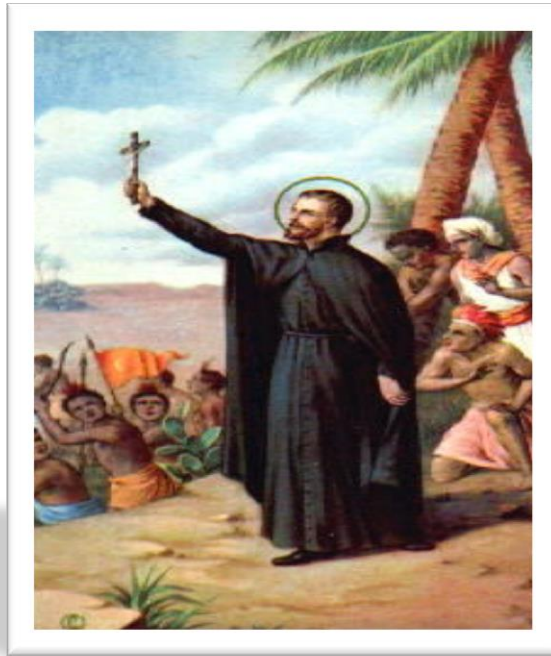
the end of prayer I found the bright light around me. I felt like I was in the air, something happened in my life. I became like a new person.

**“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away;  
behold all things are become new” - 2 Corinthians 5:17**

**T**hat was the turning point in my life, left all the worldly friends with the nominal Christian friends. There was a great change in my life. I was started sharing the testimony in the different churches and meetings. Lot of youth gave their lives to Jesus by listing my testimony. Because they knew my past well, they found newness in my life. In the past I was gathered the men for the worldly things, now Jesus changed me to bring the people to His knowledge. I can say the Jesus made as the fishers of men.



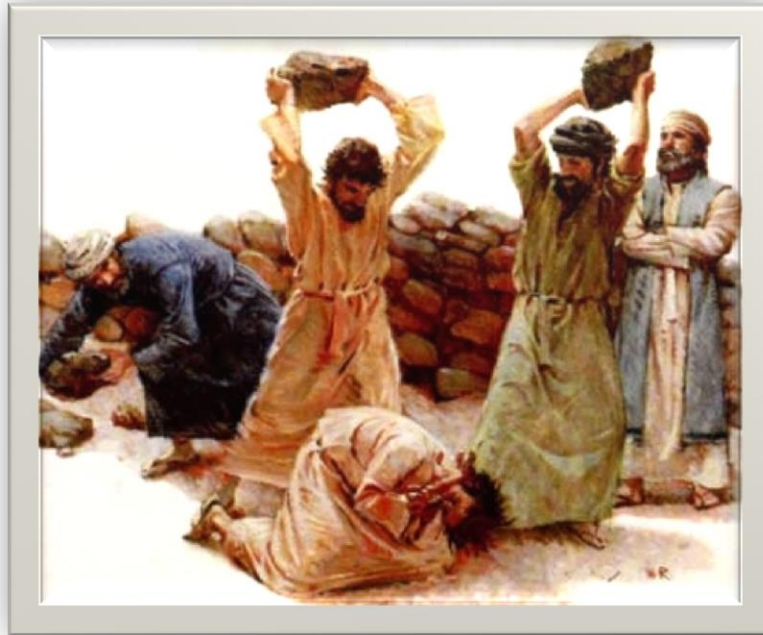
## Commitment for the fishers of men



**W**hen I was accepted Jesus as my personal savior, that was the turning point to share my testimony to the people. Youth were touched through testimony and accepted the Jesus Christ as their personal savior. We were formed as the team and started the fasting prayers, prayer meeting at the youth houses. God was started strengthen us and used in the way He likes. We started to go to the villages to proclaim the gospel to the people. We have visited more than 500 villages. We were conducted the youth retreats in different church in and around the city. We have also conducted the revival meetings in the larger scale with our little earnings. God moved among us to do the greater works for His glory to win the souls. As we did the work with more commitment, God blessed all of the youth who were involved in this great spiritual move. They are now in good jobs, some are doing ministry as pastor and evangelists. They bring many people to the Christ Jesus. I can say God made all of us as the fishers of men.

## Struggling as the fishers of men

**“In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted” - 2 Timothy 3:12**



**W**hen we start to live for Jesus, then the troubles will automatically start. It's happened to us. Nominal Christian leaders started their attacks on us. In the other side the attacks in the mission fields. We formed as the team called the Personal Revival Ministry. We the team did lot of work to bring the people to Christ Jesus. We all the youth were married and scattered to different places. I and my wife only son started the church ministry with fifteen people in the year 1993. Other youth also started their ministries in different areas. Some settled in the government jobs and doing the ministry besides the job. Everyone had their own struggling for their ministry. Coming to my life and ministry, we had very bad experiences in the ministry. Dragged to the police stations and beaten for the sake of gospel.



## **Failures as the fishers of men**

**Within the church we had face problems through the evil people. As Judas sold Jesus for the thirty silver coins, we can find the Judases in our churches.**

**“For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinner” -**

**Romans 5:19**

**F**rom the 1993 till now we are facing this kind of disobedience people. For every twelve people we will have one Judas in the churches. That Judas sold the Jesus for thirty silver coins. These Judases will make many others as the sinners. In other words disturb the church. Some started their own churches and destroyed there. Some join with other church to adopt their evilness to those churches. By the time they leave the church they do all kinds of nonsense, including defaming the pastor by all of their evil

methods. I can say we lost of people in these kinds of evil people. There will be one person for this kind of evil works, but the victims will be the innocent people. I really do not know, we call it is failure or the evil act? These kinds of things were happening around the globe. Satan is using certain people for this kind of evil works. Because of the prayers we were able to continue the ministry with rapid development. If five people left the church, ten people are adding to the church. I can say the living church is the growing church.



**What I have noticed here about the evil people who are spoiling the church was totally destroyed in their lives and families.**

**“If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple” - 1 Corinthians 3:17**

**I have seen many people destroyed themselves by trying to spoil the church. What I have learned in my life was, the Church Belongs to God, that's His body, he is the head of the church. He takes care about the church. I always feel that I am labor in his yard. Our duty is to fulfill His mission on the face of earth.**



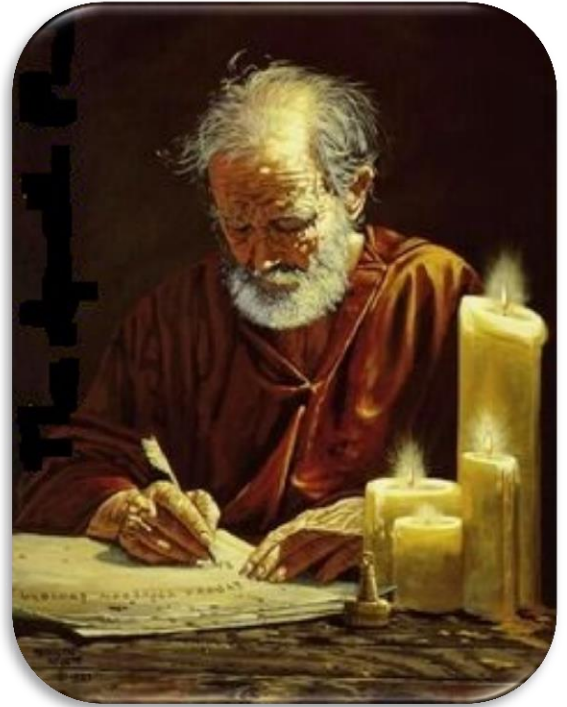
## Encouragement for the fishers of men



**G**od always in our side, he takes care about us and encourages us all times to carry the ministry. I can boldly one thing that God is my shield and Fort. With our Him we do nothing.

## God's encouragement to St. Paul

Paul looked straight at the Sanhedrin and said, My brothers, I have fulfilled my duty to God in all good conscience to this day. At this the high priest Ananias ordered those standing near Paul to strike him on the mouth. Then Paul said to him, "God will strike you, you whitewashed wall! You sit there to judge me according to the law, yet you yourself violate the law by commanding that I be struck! Those who were standing near Paul said, "How dare you insult God's high priest! Paul replied, "Brothers, I did not realize that he was the high priest; for it is written: 'Do not speak evil about the ruler of your people. Then Paul, knowing that some of them were Sadducees and the others Pharisees, called out in the Sanhedrin, My brothers; I am a Pharisee, descended from Pharisees. I stand on trial because of the hope of the resurrection of the dead. When he said this, a dispute broke out between the Pharisees and the Sadducees, and the assembly was divided. (The Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, and that there are neither angels nor spirits, but the Pharisees believe all these things.) There was a great uproar, and some of the teachers of the law who were Pharisees stood up and argued vigorously. We find nothing wrong with this man, they said. What if a spirit or an angel has spoken to him? The dispute became so violent that the commander was afraid Paul would be torn to pieces by them. He ordered the troops to go down and take him away from them by force and bring him into the barracks. The following night the Lord stood near Paul and said, "Take courage! As you have testified about me in Jerusalem, so you must also testify in Rome" - Acts 23:1-11





## Encouragement for the finances

**I**n my life many things happened like this. When I was in the financial depression god opened the doors for me to stand for him. There were the situations to sell the house where we are living. I literally cried at the feet of God for the help. He encouraged me by opening the doors to come out from that pressure.



## Encouragement by adding new people to the church



**A**ll these twenty two years the church is growing in both in the number and spirit. As I have shared before lot of evil people tried their best to disturb the church. God always protected and added the new people time to time. This was the great encouragement from the God. Because of His encouragement, I can boldly say that the “Living church is the growing church”

## Encouragement for the worship place

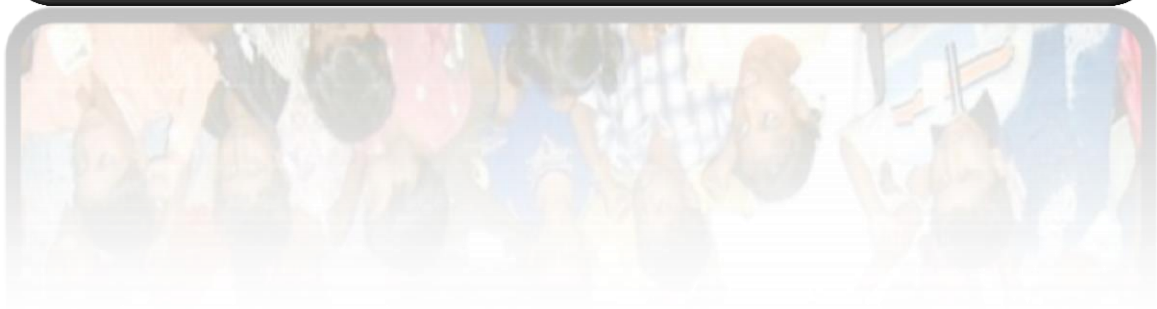
**O**ur church age is now twenty two years, all these years we were struggling for the place to worship. Ten years we had the church services at mission school. Another ten years at Government community hall, one year in another Government community hall. Now at the leased hall with air-condition. We are having three services on Sunday. We really faced difficulties and problems all these years, God encouraged and encouraging till now to have the peaceful worship.





## Encouragement in the ministries

**C**hildren ministry we face many problems. Some Sunday school teachers had done anti work and took some children from us. In any time God is adding the new children to the church. We have thirty four Sunday school teachers and one thousand children. God is always encouraging us in the children ministry to grow.





## Encouragement in the youth ministry

**Y**outh were problematic anywhere in the world. When they were gone to the wrong roots, it is difficult to handle the youth, because they are strong. They are strong for Jesus; same time strong for evil. We faced problems through youth many times. God always takes care to control them and bring to the right track. Very few gone away from the church.



## Encouragement in the women ministry

My wife Helena does this women ministry. As the scriptures says,

“Every wise woman builds her house: but the foolish plucks it down with her hands” -  
Proverbs 14:1

Women are problematic when they are not in God. Helena do's this work with all  
**W** the wisdom she got from god. She is able to do this effective work through the  
encouragement of God.





## Encouragement in the Village ministry

We have wonderful village ministry. Problems are same as we have in the main church. God was encouraging us to continue the work with any problems. God was also helping us to give the monthly honorarium to the village pastors. Some church left us due to the disobedience. God is adding new churches to us. We were able to maintain this wide ministry through the encouragement of the Living God.



## Protection for the fishers of men

**T**his is very important for the fishers of men. If we have no protection of God we cannot do the ministry. When we start to do the ministry, Satan will keep his full concentration on us to destroy us. In my life I faced demonic attacks through the Hindu teachers. They send demon spirit to kill me. The great God protected me from those evil spirits. Those evil spirits killed the person who did this work, Living God protecting us, in all means to encourage us in the ministry.





## Precaution for the fishers of men

When we called as the fishers of men, it was very essential to take precautions. It is not easy to do that job. When we become the fishers of men, then immediately the Satan turn his looks towards us to stop the work and to destroy us. That's the mission of Satan. Satan is moving like the roaring lion to kill the fishers of men.

**“Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour” - 1 Peter 5:8**

For two reasons we need to take the precautions. One is to continue the ministry; number two is to finish the ministry with good results.



## Continue as the fishers of men

Many people called by the God to do the ministry. But they fall in the temptations of the world. What is in the world?

“Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life comes not from the Father but from the world” - 1 John 2:15-16



**H**ow can we continue the ministry? Not with our might or strength. It's only by the spirit of God we can continue the ministry.

“This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,’ says the Lord Almighty.

What are you, mighty mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become level ground. Then he will bring out the capstone to shouts of ‘God bless it! God bless it’ - Zechariah 4:6-7

## Prayer and the word of God

**P**ayer: Prayer and the word of God are the two legs for the fishers of men. When we lose the prayer life Satan will attack us. The great servant of God D.L.Moody said that, when we start to pray the Satan will tremble.

Coming to my life, I am able to continue the ministry only through the prayers. I have learned from my mother to get in the early morning for the prayers. I am continuing that even in these sixty two years of the age; get up by 4:30am for the prayers. That's only the secret of my spiritual growth and also continuing in the ministry.

“However, this kind does not come out except by prayer and fasting” - Matthew 17:21



**Word of God:** Word of God will guide us to continue the ministry.

**“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path” - Psalm 119:105**

**“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God” - John 1:1**

**So the word is the God. We need Him to continue the ministry. I have seen many churches in America, they dance and worship and go to their homes, no word of God in those churches. Those churches were closed all of sudden. Our church here in India has the four keys to run. We thought that to every member; 1. Prayer, 2.Word of God, 3.Faith, 4.Fellowship. We are able to continue the ministry for the glory of God. Our ministry is growing day by day. We strongly believe that the “Living church is the growing church”**





## **Finish the race as the fishers of men**



**Beginning is not important finishing is the important thing**

**“The end of a matter is better than its beginning, and patience is better than pride” - Ecclesiastes 7:8**

**“Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won’t you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you” - Luke 14:28-29**

**St. Paul proudly giving this following statement, “crown of righteousness” it’s not only to St. Paul but also for everyone who have longed for his appearing.**

**“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will**

**award to me on that day and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing” - 2 Timothy 4:7-8**

**What a great privilege for the fishers of men that God has given. By the grace of God I had sixty two years of long life run as the successful Pastor. God blessed me in every corner of my life. God blessed me with good parents, good wife, good son, and good daughter – in – law, good congregation, good health( I don’t see doctor, due to good health. “Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint” - Isaiah 40:31), and good education. Good in everything. God gave the privilege to write books. The first book “Journey of Life” is my Autography. It speaks the success in my life. After publish of that book, every day I am at the feet of God to help me to continue the exemplary life with good testimony to finish my race for the Glory of God. I have seen many pastors ended up their lives with very bad testimony.**

**“As it is written: God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you”**

**My one and only heartfelt prayer to God every day was, keep me strong in the spirit to live for Him, till the last breath. I also ask Him to take me right now, if there are any failures in the future. I tell God every day that, I want live for Him; and die for Him. The great God protecting me and guiding me to live for Him.**

**We can fish the race only through the grace of God. He this gave great assurance to me and to all the fishers of men.**

**"Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you” - Isaiah 49:15**

**“He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young” -Isaiah 40:11**

**With this great esurience, let us continue this wide work God has given us. Let us reach the un-reached with the spirit of fishers of men that God has given us to fulfill His mission on the face of earth.**

**Glory and honor must go to God all times. After finishing the race as the successful fisher of men, treat yourself that you are unworthy servant.**

**“When you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty” - Luke 17:10**

**“They shouted, this is the voice of a god, not of a man. Immediately, because Herod did not give praise to God, an angel of the Lord struck him down, and he was eaten by worms and died” - Acts 12:22-23**

**No human can steal the glory of God. Our God is the jealous God. God blessed in all aspects. with all those abilities, I can say only one thing “**

**“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me” - Galatians 2:20**

**“By the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them--yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me” - 1 Corinthians 15:10**

**we may be honored as the great fishers of men. but we must remember that God called unworthy and using for His glory.it is not that you or me it is that God do everything on His own way.**

**If God gives the fishers of men job to an angel, it will do the work accurately whatever the way that God wants to do, with in time. But God gave this job to the unworthy people and made us worthy in Him.**

**“How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns” - Isaiah 52:7**

**So let’s be humble in front of God to continue the great work that has given us.**

**“Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose” - Philippians 2:12-13**

**“Let us finish our race as the successful fishers of men”**

**May God Bless You**



# *Conclusive Word*

**A fisherman turns the live fish into death.**



**Living Fish**



**Dead Fish**

**Fishers of men turn the dead men into life.**

**Dead man**



**Living man**







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